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inquest jury

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credit urged

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Begin's \$6m
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Haughey raises
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Pound weakens

S Africa on top

10% rise in serious crime recorded in 1981

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

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US and France aim to mend rifts

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 12

Record fall in mortgage rate starts new battle

Runcie protest just a start, says Paisley

Employers wooed on closed shops

First Briton gets life-saving computerized pacemaker

Military and media pose threat, says Benn

Day of confusion



Princess Anne returned to Sandhurst, her first married home, to inspect the passing out parade of the nineteenth direct entry graduate course. She was accompanied by Col. J. E. M. Hughes.

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Day of confusion

The Times and its editorship

By David Felton and Donald Macintyre

A day of speculation about the editorship of The Times ended last night with an announcement by Mr. Rupert Murdoch, the proprietor, that "terms have now been agreed" for the departure of Mr. Harold Evans, the editor.

Mr. Murdoch confirmed that last Tuesday he had asked for Mr. Evans' resignation and invited Mr. Charles Douglas-Home, the deputy editor, to take over as editor.

The statement from Mr. Murdoch in New York, issued in London last night by Mr. Richard Seary, QC, chairman of Mr. Murdoch's News Corporation, the parent company, read:

"It is true that I asked Mr. Harold Evans for his resignation. This was done on Tuesday, 9th March with the unanimous approval of the independent national directors. Mr. Evans agreed to give his resignation, but has been negotiating the terms of his departure. These have now been agreed. At no point has there been any difference of opinion, stated or otherwise, between Mr. Evans and myself about the policy of the paper. In those circumstances I invited Charles Douglas-Home to take over the editorship of The Times. Mr. Evans also, with the approval of the independent national directors."

After a meeting on Tuesday of the board of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd (TNHL), which includes the six independent national directors, Mr. Murdoch offered Mr. Douglas-Home the editorship and later asked Mr. Evans, who was appointed editor just over 12 months ago, to resign.

Mr. Douglas-Home said last night: "I was asked to see Rupert Murdoch on Tuesday and was told that he had spoken to the independent directors. He was of the view that Harold Evans' resignation should be asked for. He asked would I edit The Times in that event, to which I agreed."

A close friend

Earlier Mr. Gerald Long, company managing director, told the Press Association, the national news agency: "There is no dispute about the independence of the editor, nor has there ever been, nor will there be."

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Hospital pay action threatened

Leaders of 250,000 hospital ancillary workers told employers yesterday they were refusing to negotiate on a 4 per cent pay offer.

They gave a warning that the threat of industrial action was looming over the offer, which they said was derisory and would leave most ancillary staff below the official poverty line.

A similar reaction came from leaders of 130,000 hospital administrative and clerical workers in separate pay talks.

The ancillary workers adjourned without a new date for talks being set, after the management side offered to raise basic rates by 4 per cent from April in line with government policy. The four unions involved want a 12 per cent rise, a shorter week and more holidays.

Exit case man's jail term cut

A 30-month jail sentence imposed on Nicholas James Reed, former general secretary of Exit, the voluntary euthanasia society, for helping people to kill themselves, was reduced to 18 months by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

The judges ruled that although Reed, aged 34, of Sanford Walk, New Court, south London, deserved a more than nominal jail term for such serious offences, justice could be done to him and the public interest by reducing his sentence.

Reed, jailed at the central Criminal Court in October for conspiring to aid and abet suicide and aiding and abetting suicide, had his appeal against sentence allowed, but the Court of Appeal refused him leave to challenge his convictions.

Plessey decision reserved

Scottish judges have reserved judgment in an appeal by the management of Plessey against an earlier court ruling that workers could continue a six-week occupation at its factory in Bathgate, West Lothian.

The appeal at the Court of Session, Edinburgh, was regarded as a test case on the right of industrial occupations in Scotland. The judges will issue a written judgment later.

Silent tribute to shot PC

A thousand policemen stood in silent tribute at the funeral yesterday of Detective Constable James Porter, who was shot dead in a wages robbery in Bishop Auckland, Durham nine days ago. Every police force in the country was represented at a Mass at St Patrick's Church, Langley Moor, Durham.

Director cleared

Anthony Barry, aged 42, a company director, of Old Nazing, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of being involved in a plot concerning forged £5 notes worth £2m.

Unionists reject Prior's plan for devolution

From our Correspondent, Belfast

The plan by Mr James Prior, Head of State for Northern Ireland, to introduce a progressively maturing form of devolved government has received a double setback.

Yesterday the executive of the Official Unionist Party rejected the scheme as a "hokey system of government". Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the SDLP, also attacked the plan on the ground that it was based on the failed philosophy of Unionism.

The executive is the main policy-forming body of the leading Unionist party and its decision yesterday must be seen by the Secretary of State as a blow to his hopes of success for an early political initiative.

In a statement endorsing the policy of majority rule, the executive declared it was satisfied that Mr Prior was, in fact, seeking to enforce power sharing. It also agreed that if an election were held, the party would put its own views on devolution to the electorate and seek endorsement. The aim would be to work for genuine power sharing and not a phoney government, designed to divide the United Kingdom.

The party is not anxious for further talks with Mr Prior until it has studied the White Paper which he is expected to present to Parliament.

Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, was directed by the High Court in Belfast yesterday to explain the circumstances surrounding

the disappearance of a woman who was last seen when she left home with police officers, four months ago.

Mrs Margaret Russell, aged 66, lived in Ballyclare Street, Belfast, with her daughter and son in law Kathleen and Christopher Black and their children. The application to the court was made on behalf of Mrs Russell's husband, Joseph and Mrs Mary McGahey another of her daughters.

Mr Richard McLaughlin for the family, seeking a writ of habeas corpus, said that it was not certain whether Mrs Russell went voluntarily or whether police took her against her will. Since she left home, police were not prepared to disclose any information about her or her whereabouts, he claimed.

In an affidavit, Mrs McGahey said that she had not seen her mother nor received any communication from her since November 24, 1981.

"When I last saw her, she was in her usual good health and spirits but she was concerned and anxious over the arrest of her son in law. In view of the circumstances I have contacted numerous persons and instituted numerous inquiries to try to establish her whereabouts and her general state of well being," the affidavit said.

Mr Justice Kelly granted leave for notice of motion to be issued on the Chief Constable, directing him to attend court next Friday and explain the circumstances surrounding the case.



No key to the door: Bulu the Orang-utan, who celebrated her twenty-first birthday at London Zoo yesterday, with her youngest son, Bintang, aged three. Bulu was the first Orang-utan to be born at the zoo, and now has five offspring.

New police chief for Devon and Cornwall

From Craig Seton, Exeter.

Mr David East, who was chosen yesterday to step up from deputy to be Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, said that he was as committed to the concept of community policing as Mr John Alderson, who retires next month after establishing a reputation as Britain's most radical senior policeman.

Mr East, aged 45, the deputy for four years, began his police career as a constable in Berkshire in 1958. He was chosen to succeed Mr Alderson by the Devon and Cornwall police authority from a short-list of six, which included Mr David Hall the Chief Constable of Humberside.

He took over on May 1 when Mr Alderson, who was frequently criticised for his alleged "soft" approach to policing by other senior police officers, retires five years early.

Mr Burton of Hazelwell Cottages, Kingsmead, Exeter, told the court he had been sitting by the road when he saw Miss Straw. "I went to speak to her. I asked her if she was kind to animals and she laughed and said 'Oh yes, very.' I said 'Well look after this' and she said 'I will.' It was a very sudden and unexpected thing. I panicked and ran away."

Mr East: "No major change in direction."

Conviction for murder quashed

The Court of Appeal overturned the murder conviction of a man aged 23 yesterday because of error by Judge Clarke, former Central Criminal Court judge, it was the second time this week that he has been overruled.

On Monday the court ruled that the judge, who has retired, had put unfair pressure on a murder jury, and quashed the resulting conviction of Newton Rose, a Londoner.

Yesterday the court of Appeal held that the judge, in another stabbing case, had neglected to deal properly with the accused's defence of provocation.

Colin Simon Ward, a decorator, of Orchard Road, St John's Wood, north London, jailed for life on October 7, 1980, for the killing of Mr John Hall, a year earlier, had his murder conviction quashed.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Lord Justice Shaw and Mr Justice Russell, substituted a conviction of manslaughter and an 11-year jail sentence.

Lord Justice Watkins said Judge Clarke's directions on provocation were not dealt with adequately, if at all, in a lengthy summing-up. "We have come reluctantly to the conclusion that the verdict of murder cannot stand and must be regarded as unsafe and unsatisfactory."

He added, however, that the case remained serious in that the victim's young life was torn away from him.

Cut-price trout

A fish farm at Calverton, Nottinghamshire, is killing 75,000 trout and 500,000 fry each week because of a disease, which makes them swim in circles, it is offering the trout at reduced prices to hotels.

Verdicts on 'slum house' fire victims

By David Nicholson-Lord

A verdict of misadventure was returned yesterday on eight people who died when a fire swept through three lodging houses in Notting Hill, west London, last December.

The unanimous verdict came after the jury had sought clarification from the coroner on the meaning of unlawful killing, another verdict open to them, and on a landlord's duty of care towards his tenants. The houses had been described as a "slum" and a "house of cards" during the two-week hearing. There was immediate criticism from solicitors representing relatives of some of the fire victims, six of whom were foreigners.

Mr Michael O'Dwyer, a law centre solicitor, described the failure of Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, to add recommendations on fire safety to the verdict as an outrage. "Tenants' representatives said that Westminster council has taken over another five of the houses of Mr Charalambos Poryiouras, the Greek landlord, under control orders issued under the Housing Act of 1964."

Mr Poryiouras had refused to answer questions at the inquest, on the ground that they would seek to incriminate him. He was not available for comment yesterday. The jury, at three houses in Clarendon Gardens, with 56 rooms and 100 tenants sharing one entrance. Relatives of the victims were supported by North Kensington Law Centre and by councils over fire precautions in multiple-occupancy houses.

Dr Knapman, who described the inquest as extraordinary and the longest in memory at Westminster, had earlier called the need to reconcile cheap accommodation for homeless people with expensive fire improvements an "insoluble problem."

AUCTIONEER NEGLIGENCE OVER FARM

From Our Correspondent, Exeter.

Rendells, the South Devon auctioneers, have been professionally negligent, Mr Justice Bristow ruled in a civil action at Exeter Crown Court yesterday. He awarded damages against them totaling £59,865.

The award was made in favour of Mr Robert Boyce, aged 55, of Ashwell Farm, Halwell, Totnes, who had sued the firm. He claimed that because of the negligence of Rendells, Mr Colin Trant and Mr Paul Trant, two farming brothers, had gained a protected agricultural tenancy over most of his farm when he had intended that they should have only grazing rights. Because of that the value of the farm had been reduced, he maintained.

Mr Justice Bristow said that Mr Neville Pedrick, a partner in the Totnes branch of Rendells had failed to alert Mr Boyce to the risk of land under the plough which was drawing up grazing agreements in 1975 and 1977.

Science report Looking East to a new ice age

By the Staff of "Nature"

The possibility that instabilities of the ice sheet of east Antarctica may cause future ice ages has been raised by two American glaciologists.

Sudden changes in the Antarctic ice sheets have been thought to be responsible for worldwide glaciation, but until now most attention has been concentrated on the west Antarctic ice sheet, which is unstable because its base lies well below sea level.

Instability of the Antarctic ice sheets can affect the Earth's climate in two ways. If large tracts of ice break off, more sunlight will be reflected directly back, and the melting ice will cool the southern oceans. Although the east Antarctic ice shelf is largely grounded on land lying above sea level, it is much bigger than that of west Antarctica. Instability could be generated by the accumulation of snow and ice on its upper reaches, perhaps resulting in a sudden surge of ice.

Evidence for such a surge has been inferred from raised sea levels of about 8 metres in the Pacific 120,000 years ago.

Dr Gerald Schubert, from the University of California at Los Angeles, and Dr David Yuen, from Arizona State University, have suggested how the east Antarctic ice sheet could surge. They say the ice's normal slow deformation could accelerate dramatically if a significant portion of the ice sheet exceeded five kilometres thick, because the ice sheet is warmer at its base than at the surface, due to geothermal heating, and because ice deforms more readily at warmer temperatures.

The estimated critical thickness is close to the measured maximum thickness of about four kilometres, suggesting that the ice sheet is close to the point where instability may occur. Once it becomes unstable and starts to slide rapidly, frictional heating could accelerate the surge.

The thickening needed to reach instability would come from increased snowfall over the Antarctic, which could be produced by variations in global warming by the Sun. The new mode may, therefore, provide a link between astronomical theories for the inception of ice ages based on calculations of the variations of the solar distance and the inclination of the Earth and the ice sheet surge theories, by using the former to initiate the latter.

If correct, such a catastrophic surge might take no more than 100 to 1,000 years. Source: Nature, vol 296, p127, March 11, 1982.

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$2.25; Britain 20 0.50;
Belgium 1.75; Canada 1.75;
Canada 1.75; France 1.75;
France 1.75; Germany 1.75;
Germany 1.75; Italy 1.75;
Italy 1.75; Japan 1.75;
Japan 1.75; Korea 1.75;
Korea 1.75; Netherlands 1.75;
Netherlands 1.75; Norway 1.75;
Norway 1.75; Portugal 1.75;
Portugal 1.75; Spain 1.75;
Spain 1.75; Sweden 1.75;
Sweden 1.75; Switzerland 1.75;
Switzerland 1.75; Taiwan 1.75;
Taiwan 1.75; Thailand 1.75;
Thailand 1.75; USA 1.75;
USA 1.75; Yugoslavia 1.75.

Divisional Court

Wrong statute for indecent behaviour

Parkin v Norman Valentine v Lilley. Before Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice McCullough. [Judgment delivered March 10]

Where allegations were made of indecent behaviour of a homosexual nature in public lavatories, charges under section 5 of the Public Order Act 1936, as amended, more often than not, prove inappropriate.

The Divisional Court observed, allowing Thomas Henry Parkin's appeal by case stated from Nottingham Crown Court (Judge Elliot), that two justices who dismissed his appeal against conviction by Mansfield Justices for an offence under section 5 of the Public Order Act 1936, and Robin James Valentine's appeal by case stated against his conviction by Mansfield Justices for a similar offence.

Mr Adrian Furd for Parkin; Mr Richard Payne for Valentine; and Mr Richard S. A. Benson for the prosecution.

MR JUSTICE MCCULLOUGH, reading the reserved judgment of the court, said that the cases raised questions involving the application of section 5 of the 1936 Act where accusations were made of indecent behaviour of a homosexual nature in public lavatories.

Section 5 provides: "Any person who in any public place... uses threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour... with intent to provoke a breach of the peace or whereby a breach of the peace is likely to be occasioned shall be guilty of an offence."

Each appellant was found to have been handling his penis in a way which clearly indicated that he wanted his behaviour to be seen by the only other person present at the urinals in a public lavatory. In each case, unknown to the appellant, the other person was a police officer in plain clothes who, after a suitable interval, arrested him.

Each was convicted and appealed by case stated. Each submitted that the behaviour was not insulting and that no breach of the peace was likely to be occasioned by it.

Counsel for the appellant Parkin submitted that no one was insulted by the appellant's conduct and that in any event an insult required a person to be insulted which was absent in the present case.

Having regard to the tenor of the 1936 Act as a whole, their Lordships believed that no such intent need be proved, despite the words of Viscount Radcliffe in *Brutus* (1973) AC 564, 565G.

What was required was conduct of a threatening, abusive or insulting character which was likely to be occasioned by a breach of the peace. It did not matter whether anyone felt insulted or whether there had been insulting, abusive or insulting behaviour.

Insulting behaviour did not lose its insulting character simply because no one who witnessed it was insulted. It was more than enough that it was likely to be insulting to provoke a breach of the peace merely because no one who witnessed it was insulted.

The words of the statute were: "whereby a breach of the peace is likely to be occasioned" and "insulting behaviour".

That was a penal provision and the courts had to take care that the former expression was not treated as if it were the latter. The Act did not make it criminal to use offensive or insulting words or behaviour whereby a breach of the peace is likely to be occasioned. It required, in the present case, insulting behaviour.

What then was an insult? It was not a mere insult to someone who felt insulted. The word "insult" presupposed a subject and a human object.

The appellant's conduct was aimed at only one person who, he hoped, was a homosexual. He was not trying to insult that person, and another homosexual would surely not have felt insulted by the appellant's conduct.

The person insulted, for that was what the appellant's conduct amounted to, might very well have been an ordinary heterosexual using the lavatory for its proper purpose. On the basis that the appellant's conduct was insulting, the court was unanimous in its conclusion that the appellant's conduct was insulting.

I believe you are another homosexual, which the average heterosexual would regard as insulting, the conduct could fairly be regarded as potentially insulting, and could therefore be described as insulting behaviour. Was a breach of the peace likely to result?

Neither the appellant nor the police officer was likely to break the peace and no third party was likely to have observed the appellant's conduct. It was possible that someone might have seen and might have caused a breach of the peace, but no court could have been sure that that was likely. The court could only have convicted the appellant by treating the word "likely" as "liable" and accordingly the conviction would be quashed.

Of the questions posed in Valentine's case, two involved questions canvassed above: namely, in deciding whether behaviour was insulting and whether a breach of the peace was likely, it was proper to take into account the reactions, not only of the person to whom the behaviour was addressed, but of others who might have observed it.

In their Lordships' judgment it was right to take that matter into account for the purpose of deciding both questions.

The remaining question was whether a breach of the peace was restricted to acts of violence, the justices having found that there was a strong probability of a breach of the peace occurring by a disturbance or out of violence.

It was conceded by Mr Benson

Law Report March 13 1982

Additional district auditor not unlawful

Derby City Council and Others v Secretary of State for the Environment. Before Mr Justice Forbes. [Judgment delivered March 8]

The Secretary of State for the Environment was entitled to require local authorities to have their accounts audited against their wishes by an additional district auditor, and such action was not ultra vires and was not contrary to the policy and provisions of the Local Government Act 1972.

Mr Justice Forbes so held when dismissing claims by the Derby City Council, and the Local Authorities of Tower Hamlets and Newham that the auditors they had appointed alone had the power to audit their accounts. The secretary of state had indicated to them that he would require them to have

their accounts audited by an additional district auditor.

Mr Christopher Cochrane for the applicants; Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr John Laws for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that the applicants had suggested that the matter should be looked at in both its historical context, with local authorities being organised into recognised geographical districts each with a single identified district auditor, and by statutory interpretation.

Under section 154 of the Local Government Act 1972 they had a choice of appointing a district auditor or an auditor in private practice approved by the secretary of state. He was now in effect taking away the district auditor they had chosen and was appointing a new one.

However, under section 156 the secretary of state had the power to appoint such district auditors as he thought necessary. There was no warrant for assuming that anything in the 1972 Act required district auditors to be organised in geographical districts.

As long as he did not act unreasonably, the way in which the secretary of state organised the accounts to be audited was up to him. It followed that there was no reason why he should not make out a particular account from a geographical district and appoint a specific district auditor to audit it. The secretary of state had not acted unreasonably in doing so. The second argument, based on the decision in *Padfield v Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food* (1968) AC 997, that a minister should not use his discretion under an Act to thwart

of predominantly Asian youths the mischief of officers of the Metropolitan Police, so that the police were obliged to take up positions behind riot shields.

Before Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Woolf. [Judgment delivered March 10]

Evidence was put before the court by the police officers who had been made on behalf of the appellant and at the end of the prosecution case the appellant produced a video cassette recording which he had made from the original which was shown on three television news bulletins on July 4, 1981. The original was in the possession of the BBC who as a matter of policy, did not allow the originals of their films to leave their premises.

He further stated that the original was taken by a film crew despatched by BBC news on July 3, 1981 and was brought to the news department by one of the crew. The crew concerned were presently on an overseas assignment.

Mr David Metcalfe, a regimental sergeant major with the Army and a permanent staff advisor at the Territorial Army Centre in Southall gave evidence on oath that on July 4, 1981 he watched a

Video recording evidence admitted

BBC news programme of violence in Southall.

Accused of the youths concerned turned towards the camera and was shown in a close-up shot and Mr Metcalfe said that he confidently recognised him as the appellant whom he knew well since the appellant had undergone a two-week recruitment course with the Territorial Army Centre in Southall.

Mr Derek McAllister, assistant to the editor of BBC television news giving evidence on oath produced and identified as a true copy a video cassette recording which he had made from the original which was shown on three television news bulletins on July 4, 1981. The original was in the possession of the BBC who as a matter of policy, did not allow the originals of their films to leave their premises.

He further stated that the original was taken by a film crew despatched by BBC news on July 3, 1981 and was brought to the news department by one of the crew. The crew concerned were presently on an overseas assignment.

Mr David Metcalfe, a regimental sergeant major with the Army and a permanent staff advisor at the Territorial Army Centre in Southall gave evidence on oath that on July 4, 1981 he watched a

The appellant further complained that the original film had been edited out of context and to the appropriate length and in the absence of the cameraman it was not possible to tell whether the film showed the events in their true sequence.

However, no attack had been made upon the integrity of the film in the sense that it had been distorted. It was a public house in the area was destroyed by fire on the evening of July 3, 1981.

The appellant finally complained that the justices found that it was a "matter of common knowledge" that a public house in the area was destroyed by fire on the evening of July 3, 1981.

However, the court agreed with the observations of Lord Wilby in *R v Horwood* (1976) 1 QB 773, that it was wrong to conclude that the use by justices of their own local or personal knowledge was sufficient to take judicial notice was merely the date of the fire, in respect of which there was sufficient evidence before them.

The justices were therefore entitled in the absence of any evidence given by or on behalf of the appellant, to convict him and the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Mackenzie Paton & Co, Southall, Metropolitan Police Solicitor.

Irish warrants

In re McFadden. Before Mr Justice Forbes (sitting with Mr Justice McCullough) and Mr Justice Donaldson. [Judgment delivered March 10]

The appellant, Mr James McFadden, was arrested on March 8, 1981 in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court that the rule of international law known as the specialty rule, which required that a person arrested on a warrant issued by one country should not be prosecuted for any matter following extradition to another country for which the extradition had been requested, did not extend to special arrangements made under the Backing of Warrants (Republic of Ireland) Act 1965 and the corresponding Irish legislation, whereby instead of extradition, mutual application of each country's warrants.

Handwritten signature or mark.

Whitelaw urges closer public links with police

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr. William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, who is under heavy pressure from Conservative right-wingers to take a tougher stand on law and order because of rising crime figures, yesterday defended the Government's record.

He called for a closer and more trusting relationship between the police and public, so that law-breakers could be isolated and the police could put their new strength to the best possible use in combating crime.

Mr. Whitelaw has been under growing criticism from some right-wing MPs, who have argued that the Conservative Party is not living up to its general election commitment on law and order, and his position has been questioned in the powerful backbench home affairs committee. There was further concern this week when Scotland Yard published figures indicating a big increase in violent street crime in London.

Mr. Whitelaw, speaking yesterday at Cannon, St. Paul's, said that the Government had carried out its responsibility to see that courts had adequate powers, and that there was a strong police force with high morale.

The Government had given its full backing to the courts in passing deterrent sentences in those convicted of serious crimes of violence and the Criminal Justice Bill, now before Parliament, would strengthen and extend the courts' powers to deal with young offenders.

Mr. Whitelaw said that the Government had formed the new Criminal Justice Commission, with an extra 8,000 men since

May, 1979, strength was at record level, and the full benefit of the changes would be felt as new young officers were trained a gained experience.

To counter street crime and burglary more men were being put on foot patrol and he commended a scheme introduced in the West Midlands in which small teams of detectives were concentrating on tackling street crime in areas with a bad record of offences, and which had led to a significant reduction in offences.

Mr. Whitelaw said, however, that the police would not succeed in tackling the local young thing and the opportunist burglar without active support and vital information from the public. He went on: "Sometimes I hear that these people who spend more time on complaints and criticism of the police than in assisting them."

To curb crime the police need the trust of the public, and the public needs the protection that, in some circumstances, only the police can provide. This is why I set great store by developing mutual understanding between the police and the law-abiding public, so that the minority who break the law can be isolated and dealt with.

Mr. Whitelaw said that firm enforcement of the law must be combined with a campaign of education, and that the community involvement in curbing crime.

Recorded crime in Merseyside in January showed an increase of just over 19 per cent on January 1981 (Our Liverpool Correspondent writes).

Statement by Prosser trial warder

From Arthur Osman, Leicester

When the defence of the first of three prison officers accused of murder opened at Leicester Crown Court yesterday, Melvin Jackson, aged 33, chose to make a 20-second statement to the jury from the dock.

Mr. Patrick Bennett, QC, for his defence, had outlined the reasons Mr. Jackson would not be going into the witness box.

Mr. Jackson told the eight men and four women of the jury: "I have been advised by my legal advisers that I do not have to give evidence in this court but I would like to say that I have had nothing to do with the murder of Barry Prosser. I have had nothing to do with his death."

It was the tenth day of the trial in which Mr. Jackson and two colleagues, Eric Smith, aged 32, and Howard Price, aged 32, have been charged with the murder of Barry Prosser, a 32-year-old man with two children, from Sedgley, West Midlands, while he was on remand at Winton Green Prison, Birmingham, in August, 1980. The accused were hospital officers.

Explaining why Mr. Jackson would be giving evidence on his own behalf, Mr. Bennett said that the stress and strain he had gone through was something not many had to suffer. He had appeared in the lower court on two occasions charged with the murder but had not been committed, and he now appeared on a bill of indictment.

Mr. Bennett Taylor, a hospital senior officer at Winton Green, in evidence for the defence that he considered Mr. Prosser to have been a mentally ill man, a maniacally depressive, psychotic.

Patrick Murrigh, a senior prison officer, now at Featherstone Prison, near Wolverhampton, who had been at Winton Green, said that on one occasion shortly before his death, Mr. Prosser had created a disturbance in his cell which he shared with two other men.

It was decided to move him to a "quiet room" which he agreed was a padded cell. "He was raving that he was going to kill me," Mr. Murrigh said. "The hearing continues on Monday."

Talbot strikers stay out

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Paint shop workers on strike at the Talbot UK car plant at Ryton, Coventry, yesterday ignored warnings of the danger to the company's survival, plans, and voted unanimously to continue a dispute which has stopped all production since Monday.

The management gave warning that several hundred workers at the Stoke engine plant and Camerbury Street plastics factory would be laid off early next week. They will join another 1,400 laid off at Ryton.

A further 1,900 Stoke workers have been operating a nominal one-day week for the past three months since the collapse of Talbot's big Iranian export contract for engines and gearboxes. All 190 paint shop workers



Lighter Dark Blue: Philip Edwards, from Wolfson College, Oxford, who, at 9 stone, will cox in the women's Boat Race on March 21, being borne aloft by the university team (average weight 11st) yesterday. Mr. Edwards and Mark Brockham, who will cox for Osiris, are the first men to take part in the race.

Combined transplant possible

By Our Medical Correspondent

The transplant team at the Harfield Hospital, in West London, would be prepared to carry out a combined heart and lung transplant, should the need arise, the hospital said yesterday.

Two patients have survived such operations performed at the Harfield Hospital. The first, a 30-year-old man, had a heart and lung transplant. The second, a 40-year-old man, had a heart and lung transplant. The operations were performed by the Harfield Hospital team.

Mr. Whitelaw said that firm enforcement of the law must be combined with a campaign of education, and that the community involvement in curbing crime.

The short-term outlook for patients who have had heart transplants is improving; 31 patients have been operated on at Harfield Hospital since January 1980, of the 15 who have had surgery in the past year 12 are still alive. Their latest patient is Mr. Colin March, aged 37, of Perivale, Ealing, London, who had his operation last Wednesday, on the same day that the Papworth Hospital in Cambridge carried out its 30th transplant, using, for the first time a new drug, cyclosporin A, to combat rejection. It has been developed by Professor Roy Calne of Cambridge, for use after kidney transplants, and has fewer side-effects than conventional anti-rejection drugs.

Mr. Calderwood had hurried

Labour urged to boycott Reagan

From Jonathan Wills, Perth

Labour MPs were urged yesterday to boycott any appearance by President Reagan in the Commons. Mr. George Galloway, outgoing chairman of the Scottish Council of the Labour Party, told the party's annual conference in Perth that it was "an affront to democracy" that Mr. Reagan should be invited to "the heart of democracy".

When the President came to Britain he should be met with hostility and with demonstrations against the United States policies in Central America.

"Mrs. Thatcher's buddy and the two-bit hustler in the White House," Mr. Galloway said, "are a danger to world peace and democracy. I hope that all Labour MPs, from the leader down wards, will find that they have something else to do if he comes to the House of Commons."

Mr. Ron Hayward, attending his last Scottish conference before retiring as Labour's general secretary, said that to go along the road of witch-hunts, proscriptions and expulsions would be a catastrophe if Labour wanted to win the next general election.

With the Hillhead by-election in every delegate's mind, tolerance and reconciliation were the keynote as the Scottish Labour Party assembled after a year of bitter internal conflict.

Mr. Galloway setting aside past conflicts, appealed for united action against the Conservatives and called for an end to witch-hunts. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher had created a "Frankenstein monster" in the form of youth unemployment, he said. He talked of the possibility of more urban riots this summer.

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Voters face Jenkins choice

HILLHEAD BY-ELECTION

ried consultations last night with his opposite number at Warrington, but a list of eight accepted nominations, posted yesterday, included that of Roy Harold Jenkins, otherwise known as Mr. Douglas Parkin, who works for the Manpower Services Commission in Leeds.

Mr. Parkin, aged 43, of Fieldhead Crescent, Birstall, Batley, West Yorkshire, claimed a "moral victory" in having his nomination accepted. He claims he set up his social democratic party in

£1m arts board proposed

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

A new community arts board with an annual budget of £1m, and an ethnic minorities' arts board with an annual budget of £200,000, are among proposals being considered by the majority Labour group on the Greater London Council for its future commitments to the arts.

They are part of a comprehensive policy prepared by Mr. Tony Banks, chairman of the GLC arts and recreation committee, and are contained in a policy paper now with members of the Labour group. They will be discussed by the group later this month. There may be detailed changes, but the main proposals are likely to be accepted and become policy.

In his paper, Mr. Banks concludes: "For too long the GLC's provision of arts funding has been without any relationship to London's cultural problems. We have been orthodox, establishment-minded, conservative and unimaginative. We now have an opportunity to change this in a radical and dramatic fashion."

He believes that arts funding is far too low and hopes that in three years, the GLC will have doubled its arts spending in real terms.

Mr. Banks emphasises that the GLC should not have to fund the national centres such as the National Theatre, the English National Opera and the Royal Opera House. "Such great centres should be wholly funded by the Arts Council and the fact that they are located in London is not a reason in itself for GLC support."

The GLC should seek to disengage from direct funding of the national centres, but "do so by a process of negotiation and agreement with the Arts Council". They will all be funded for the coming year with grants above the level of inflation, and an announcement is expected in about two weeks.

The proposed board would act in an advisory role to the arts and recreation committee, and consist of representatives of the GLC and the Greater London Arts Association's specialist panels, the Greater London Association for Community Artists, and some representation from community arts groups and individuals. It would advise on individual applications for help and make policy proposals to the committee.

In the same way the Ethnic Minorities Arts Board would be set up. It would include representatives of the Commission for Racial Equality and London's main ethnic communities.

Machete siege man jailed

Orhan Yilmaz, aged 24, unemployed, of Great Cambridge Road, Tottenham, north-east London, who attacked police officers with a machete during a three-hour siege at a flat last October, was jailed for 18 months by Wood Green Crown Court yesterday.

Miss Elizabeth Taylor said she was feeling "terrific" yesterday after reading the mixed reviews of her first night in *The Little Foxes*, Zev Butman, its producer, said last night.

She stayed up until 4.30 am to read the reviews. "We had *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*, and when we read their reviews, everybody cheered," he said.

Reviews cheer Taylor

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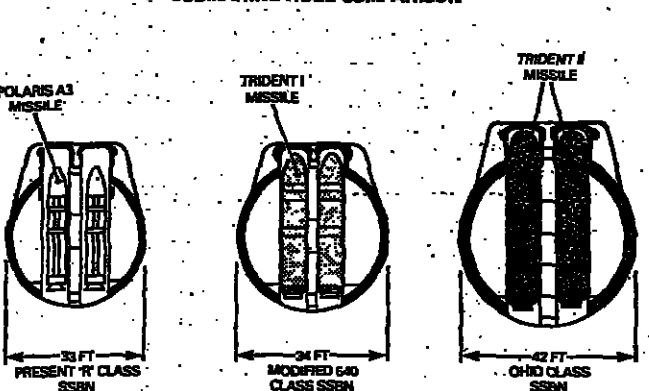
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Defence firms face uphill fight for Trident work

SUBMARINE HULL COMPARISON



By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

British defence firms have given a cautious welcome to the arrangement, negotiated as part of the Trident missile deal, under which they can bid for work on the American D5 missile.

Most are awaiting more details from the Ministry of Defence whose officials intend to set up a liaison office in London through which British tenders could be channelled.

Many were disappointed by the previous Trident-1 package, disclosed in July, 1980, which involved an "off-the-shelf" purchase of the missiles from the United States without any British involvement - except in building the submarines and the warheads.

Even now British industry remains sceptical about its chances of winning any large contracts, in spite of the United States' offer to waive part of the Buy American Act.

British Aerospace Dynamics, which was among the more vociferous critics of the earlier Trident deal, points out that it needs work which involves technological transfer rather than some small gesture by the American industrial giants.

Some feel they would do better by bidding directly with Lockheed prime contractor for Trident in the United States, rather than having to act through the proposed liaison office. All know they face an uphill job in trying to win anything substantial.

The announcement of the deal under which Britain will procure the Trident-2 or D5 missile, instead of the Trident-1 or C4, had given the

SDP council gains rates bonus from staff strike

By David Hewson

More than 1,000 council workers employed by the only Social Democrat-controlled local authority in Britain ended their three-week strike yesterday, to be told that they had saved ratepayers a penny rate increase.

Islington council in north London saved more than £500,000 on its wage bill during the dispute, Mr. Gerry Southgate, the deputy leader of the council, said yesterday. The unpaid money would be reflected when the council sets its new domestic rates next week, probably now an increase of less than 12 per cent.

Mr. Jim Evans, the council leader, said: "The saving on the rates is some consolation for residents for all the inconvenience they have had to put up with as a result of the action of the strikers. The dispute closed libraries, housing, administration and children's services, offices, and children's homes."

The dispute began with the suspension of a housing worker. A possible peace settlement between the Social Democrat and Liberal parties, the Greater London Council, and the Greater London Arts Association's specialist panels, the Greater London Association for Community Artists, and some representation from community arts groups and individuals. It would advise on individual applications for help and make policy proposals to the committee.

In the same way the Ethnic Minorities Arts Board would be set up. It would include representatives of the Commission for Racial Equality and London's main ethnic communities.

Policy for youth condemned

EDUCATION

Youth unemployment in Britain was now at a staggering and dangerous level and the Conservative Government had failed to deliver on its election manifesto statement that every child, regardless of background, would have the chance to progress as far as his or her ability allowed, Mr. Frank Dobson (Camden, Holborn and St. Pancras, South, Lab) said when opening a debate in the Commons on the young unemployed.

He deplored the employment and education policies of the Government which had led to record levels of youth unemployment and reduced education and training prospects and called for the introduction of a comprehensive, unified and continuing tertiary system of education, training and employment.

He said there were now 550,000 young people out of work, more than 250,000 on the youth opportunities scheme, and more than 50,000 on other special schemes, which meant about 900,000 young people had no real job nor any full-time education.

PARLIAMENT March 12 1982

Two out of three young people would not get a job in the coming year.

About 80 per cent of young people on youth opportunities schemes used to get jobs when finishing the scheme; this was no longer the case. The YOP scheme had been exploited by some unscrupulous employers simply to provide cheap labour and to remove the necessity for them to employ full-time workers - on decent pay.

The Government planned to reduce the weekly pay for workers on the scheme to £15 and refuse them supplementary benefit entitlement if they refused to join. There would be no training or to take people into permanent jobs because as far as they could see into the future there were going to be less of them.

There was every chance the scheme would continue to provide a source of cheap labour to be exploited.

The worst element in this was the coercion - careers advisers when they reached the age of 16 in which would be entered into the system with greater flexibility in terms of time scale and age of entry.

Mr. William Shelton, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, said new technology created more jobs than it destroyed. The area of employment that it destroyed was the unskilled. That was why it was vitally important that youngsters should be trained and should leave school with some kind of vocational experience.

At least this Government was doing something about it, when the previous Labour Government did nothing.

Whatever happened to the 16 to 19-year-olds must be based on what had happened before during the compulsory school years. Education in the fourth and fifth years must be made more effective and a greater vocational element must be introduced in those years. It was about time this was done and the Government was proposing to do it.

It might be helpful to have a certificate for all youngsters when they reached the age of 16 in which would be entered into the system with greater flexibility in terms of time scale and age of entry.

The Government would be issuing a paper on a new 17-plus qualification. A document went out for consultation last year. Consultation had been completed, and he hoped that an announcement would be made around Easter.

The debate was concluded.

NEWS IN SUMMARY
Yugoslavs arrest protesters

Belgrade. — Authorities have arrested the people thought to have organized the demonstrations in Kosovo, local Communist Party leaders announced, and said the protesters had committed "acts of treason" against Yugoslavia (AFP reports).

The demonstrators in the predominantly ethnic-Albanian region were mainly students and young people, and were marking the first anniversary of demonstrations last year that degenerated into bloody riots in April.

It became clear that the incidents were far more serious than Yugoslav authorities first admitted as reports of "energetic" police action filtered in. A Kosovo Communist League communiqué issued by the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said that the organizers would face "legal and other measures".

The communiqué urged workers and citizens of the province to oppose what it described as enemy action since it was possible that "the enemy aimed to continue its actions and extend them to other areas by resorting to different methods".

Tornado spies are jailed

Munich. — Three East German spies charged with passing on top security information on the Tornado fighter aircraft were given jail sentences.

Marietta and Jürgen Reichwald and Rolf Horst Hecht were sentenced to 15 months, six and a half years and six years respectively. Herr Reichwald, aged 37, an engineer working for a West German turbine building firm, supplied East Germany with details in the aircraft over a six-year period.

'ETA man' held in Mexico City

Mexico City. — A Spaniard who taught medicine at the National University here has been arrested for alleged connections with the Basque terrorist organization ETA, police said.

Sefior Justo Ortega Esquerro, aged 37, was charged with illegal possession of firearms and fake identity documents. Some local reports mistakenly said at first that Carlos, the Venezuelan-born terrorist, was the man being held.

No sex please, we're Swedish

Stockholm. — A Bill to ban Sweden's sex clubs will be presented to the Government later this month by Mrs Karin Söder, Minister of Health and Social Affairs. It aims to make the clubs, a big tourist attraction, illegal from July 1.

Mr Leif Lindgren, who drafted the Bill, said it would cover live pornographic shows only. Explicit sex scenes would still be permitted in serious dramatic works.

CENTRAL AMERICA APPEAL

make war on poverty, not on the poor...

The poverty, violence and suffering in Central America now threaten to engulf the region in a tragedy comparable to that of the Second World War in Europe.

According to Edward Heath, one of the primary causes for this crisis is:

"the long history of repression and exploitation of ordinary people by the government in league with an oligarchy of business interests."

WAR ON WANT works with the ordinary people and their popular organisations in their struggle to end oppression and poverty. In El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and in the Caribbean.

MAKE SURE YOUR SUPPORT REACHES THE POOR.

As the violence in the region escalates, there is an urgent need for more support. We've made our choice — please make your choice today.

I ENCLOSE £
NAME
ADDRESS
FILL IN THIS BANKER'S ORDER TO DONATE REGULARLY TO WAR ON WANT (YOUR BANK NAME)
TO
AT
Please pay War on Want £ every month/quarter starting on 1982, until further notice.
Signature
Account No.
FOR OFFICE USE
To National Westminster Bank, Ealing Branch, London W5 (00-07-12) A/c 18575785 quoting our reference
War on Want, Room 46, 467 Caledonian Road, London N7.

Eastern Europe credit curbs pressed by US

From Bailey Morris, Washington, March 12

The Reagan Administration is attempting to put economic pressure on the Soviet Union by urging its European allies to halt the flow of credit to East Europe, senior Administration officials said today.

A team of high-level Administration officials will press for this in talks next week with European leaders in place of renewed attempts to gain European support to settle the Siberian gas pipeline.

The Administration's new hard line position on credit was outlined in congressional testimony today by senior officials of the State, Defense and Agriculture Departments.

They believe that the Soviet Union is experiencing severe short-term liquidity problems which give the West a new weapon to fight for reforms and a liberalization of martial law in Poland.

The question most on our minds is "How do we put the most pressure on the military government in Poland and therefore on the Soviet Union?" and one of our answers is "Less hard currency," Mr Robert Hormatz, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, said.

He told members of the Senate agriculture committee that several East European countries are facing a severe liquidity squeeze which will force them to make difficult choices between non-food and food imports needed to bolster deteriorating living standards.

The Soviet Union, which had recently reversed past policy and begun borrowing short-term money from Western banks, might well be facing the same problem.

This is the reason the United States has adopted a strategy of trying to force Poland to pay its debts at the same time that it tightens credit to other East European countries and the Soviet Union.

"Our position now is that we want to create a process whereby money flows out of Poland and Eastern Europe to the West rather than the reverse, which has been the case for the last several years," Mr Robert T. McNamara, Deputy Secretary of the United States Treasury, said.

If this is done effectively, it is the Reagan Administration's belief that eventually Poland, Romania and even the Soviet Union will be forced to make big internal economic reforms which will not only better the arms race but living conditions in these countries.

In pursuing what was described as a new form of hard currency diplomacy, the Administration was stopping short of declaring Poland in default on its debts, which would not be in the West's best interest, Mr McNamara said.

Default would mean that the Soviet Union and the Polish Government could stop payment on past loans while continuing to make payments to other countries, thus reducing the overall pressure on Moscow to pay.

New information suggests that because of falling hard-currency earnings from the sale of oil, gold and diamonds, the Soviet Union is undergoing a severe, possibly shorter liquidity problem which will also affect the East European satellite countries.

Soviet oil exports to the West in 1982, for example, have been estimated at nearly \$14,000m (£7,650m) or about one-half total foreign-exchange earnings. But it now appears these revenues could drop by as much as \$3,000m because of the collapse of oil prices.

The gravity of the Soviet Union's cash-flow problems will become more apparent over the next several weeks when the Russians begin placing orders for the 1982 Argentine grain crop, which has been extremely necessary to Moscow's food supply in recent years.

In the past, these purchases have been paid for in cash, but there are indications the Russians will have to ask for short-term loans this year, United States agriculture officials said.

EEC protest cuts £66m from Soviet trade

Brussels, March 12. — The EEC has agreed to a small cut in Soviet imports in a move intended more as a political protest over the Polish situation than as a bid to disrupt East-West trade, diplomatic sources said today.

The sanctions, worked out this week at meetings of EEC state ambassadors would cut Soviet annual exports to the Community by little more than 1 per cent compared to the 1.5 per cent proposed by the European Commission, they said.

"There was agreement that this measure should constitute a strong political signal to Moscow and we decided this could be achieved adequately through limited cuts," one senior EEC diplomat said.

It was decided to exclude from the sanctions several articles suggested by the Commission last month as suitable for cuts. These included cars, furs, and industrial diamonds, the sources said. They added that the sanctions would be approved formally by EEC Finance Ministers at a meeting here on Monday.

An American official here described the sanctions as highly significant, despite the reduction in their scope. "The EEC is trading bloc and trade is its lifeblood. Any measure at all to limit its external trade is therefore an important step."

The cuts in imports, representing about \$120m (about £66m) worth of trade, will affect a wide range of manufactured products but will not touch the Soviet Union's main exports to the EEC — raw materials and energy.

Sombre security summit adjourns until November

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 12

Western delegates made sombre, sceptical speeches before the stormy four-week session of the European security review conference was adjourned here today. It was agreed to resume on November 9 and to try to conclude a final document "at the earliest possible time".

Western sources indicated much depends on events — especially in Poland — on the prospects for progress. The "gentlemen's agreement" worked out last weekend by the eight neutral and non-aligned for the adjournment finally held.

"Peace is better than quarrelling," said Herr Willi Pahr, the Austrian Foreign Minister, who came specially for the closing plenary session. He hinted that the climate of confrontation between East and West has become so oppressive that adjournment was evidently the lesser evil.

Mr Max Kampelman, the United States chief delegate, said: "We close this phase of our meetings fully conscious that the Helsinki process is in danger. Each passing week of our meeting brought with it new tensions as we perceived a curtain of Soviet behaviour which could only be interpreted as disdain, if not defiance, of the Helsinki final act."

Today's adjournment leaves undecided, until the end of the year, what happens to the draft of the concluding documents put together by the neutral and non-aligned nations. It text which has been lying around since December for possible amendment and final approval by the 35 nations at the conference.

Very little is offered in that document for an improved code of conduct between East and West in the view of the west. Yet the most striking thing in today's speeches was that no delegation wants the Helsinki process to disappear. "We are making the decision to reconvene, and that is significant because we appreciate the value of our continuing to talk," Mr Kampelman said.

After the military takeover, the Americans originally thought of a separate meeting in January on the Helsinki process to disappear. "We are making the decision to reconvene, and that is significant because we appreciate the value of our continuing to talk," Mr Kampelman said.

The West opted to wait for better times and Belgium, speaking for the 10 today, expressed a realistic hope of concluding a balanced document after the autumn.

There is no certainty that the Soviet Union will obtain even the first phase of a disarmament conference from the Madrid meeting as an element in future propaganda campaigns. This conference, they evidently calculated, made it worthwhile sitting through the sessions reviewing the Soviet Union's systematic violation of human rights and its massive pressure on Poland — the topics which allowed the West to score valuable points.

The Reagan Administration neither liked, nor committed itself to, the French disarmament conference proposal, because the coordinates on future inspection zones extending into the Atlantic might hinder surprise strikes by Washington's rapid deployment force.

Bonn offers Reagan a hearing

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 12

While the Labour Party is trying to stop President Reagan addressing Parliament in Westminster Hall, the West German parties have been vying with each other in their desire to get him to speak to the Bundestag.

An invitation will be sent to the President next week after leaders of all three parliamentary parties came out in favour of the idea, a Bundestag spokesman said today. The suggestion first came from the conservative opposition Christian Democrats.

It was quickly echoed by the liberal Free Democrats, the junior coalition partners, and finally, not to be outdone, by the Social Democrats.

Washington answers the 133-square-mile island as the eastern end of a strengthening left-wing axis that includes Nicaragua and Cuba, Grenada's only regional ally.

The United States fears that the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in St. George's is keen to foment revolution in other eastern Caribbean islands, and that it intends to open its international airport, now being built at a cost of \$71m (nearly £39m), to Cuban and Soviet aircraft, threatening United States security in the Caribbean and vital import routes through the area.

President Reagan, who believes that Grenada is in the "gripping grip of the totalitarian left", pointedly excluded Grenada from his Caribbean aid package announced in Washington last month. He has refused to accept Grenada's ambassador to the United States and ordered the American Ambassador in Barbados not to present his letters of credence in St. George's.

Iconoclastic bomb

Athens. — A home-made time bomb exploded in Athens cathedral yesterday, causing extensive damage to icons, police said. A hitherto unknown organization calling itself "iconoclast nihilists" telephoned to newspapers to claim responsibility.

Minister accuses Gaullists

Murdered gaming boss puts politicians in a spin

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, March 12

Murder, politics and gambling have ignited France's latest scandal which today promised to bring a legal confrontation between a senior minister and opposition leaders.

The murder and gambling elements have been present since Marcel Francisci, Corsican boss of Paris gaming club, was shot dead as he sat in his white Jaguar in an underground garage here in January.

The political element was introduced when police let it be known this month that a tape recording, found in Francisci's pocket, contained a conversation concerning two prominent lawyers with connections reaching to the top of the Mitterrand administration.

Then last night M Gaston Defferre, the Interior Minister, put the affair into the political limelight by accusing leaders of the neo-Gaullist RPR party of having been "protectors, friends and accomplices" of the dead man, who had been a local RPR councillor in Corsica.

Speaking at a rally three days before local council elections, M Defferre singled out M Jacques Chirac, the RPR leader, M Bernard Pons, its Secretary-General, and M Charles Pasqua, leader of the RPR group in the National Assembly. The three men said today they were instructing lawyers to start slander proceedings against M Defferre and M Pasqua said the RPR party would be doing the same.

Francisci established himself as a leading figure on the Paris gaming scene at the end of a protracted gang war from 1965 to 1973 in which 30 people died as underworld factions wrestled for control of the private clubs that are the only legal venue for gaming in the city.

His power base was the Cercle Haussmann, near the Opera, but his influence extended into other establishments, and he was alleged to have been a prominent member of the "French connexion" narcotics ring.

Francisci's position was suddenly thrown into jeopardy in July when the Cercle Haussmann's gambling operations were closed by an Interior Ministry order on the ground of irregularities. Immediately there were suggestions that Francisci had fallen foul of France's new administration and that he had not suffered before because he had enjoyed political protection.

Some sources reported that, at the end of last year, Francisci had decided to try to reach an understanding with the new Government, and the tapes leaked by police this month show him talking of using the services of M Paul Lombard, a lawyer who is a close friend of M Defferre, and of M Roland Dumas, a Socialist lawyer and Member of Parliament who is a friend of President Mitterrand.

No sooner had news of the tape been made known than there were suggestions that they formed part of an attempt to compromise the Socialists by sections of the police opposed to M Defferre.

The existence of the tape, said to record conversations between Francisci and M Defferre, was surprising because the gambling boss was not in the habit of recording such delicate negotiations, the news magazine L'Express, which is generally critical of the Mitterrand administration, noted today.

M Defferre said that when he decided to shut the Cercle Haussmann's gambling activities, "there was a great quivering in the Interior Ministry. For 23 years such a thing had been unthinkable. I received a quantity of letters from these gentlemen of the right calling for the opening of M Francisci's club. I may have occasion to give their names some day."

The minister also alleged that some of the money taken by the Cercle Haussmann had been used to help certain political parties and Francisci's protectors and friends.

As for the tape recording found on the dead man, M Defferre said it must have been put into Francisci's pocket. "Do M Francisci's protectors and friends want to make their complicity forgotten by transferring the responsibility to us?"

M Defferre, the long-time Mayor of Marseilles, is known as a combative, strong-willed politician, but the forthright nature of his accusation here, it will inevitably heighten tension between this Government and opposition as they prepare to do national electoral battle in Sunday's local polls for the first time since last summer's Socialist triumphs.

Latin America in turmoil

Colombia: Guerrillas throw down election challenge

Bogotá, March 12. — Guerrillas who vowed to disrupt Sunday's elections killed one policeman and wounded two others in an attack on a small town near Medellín, Colombia's second city, on Thursday night.

The guerrillas (M19) also launched firebomb attacks on buses in Medellín and Cali, and set of three bombs in Bogotá, according to the national police chief, General Francisco José Naranjo. One of the bombs exploded outside the headquarters of the National Popular Alliance party (Anapo), he said.

Nobody was injured in any of the bombing incidents, and five guerrillas were arrested in Cali, General Naranjo said.

During the run-up to the elections, in which 9,000 national, provincial and municipal assembly seats are at stake, the guerrillas have been urging voters to abstain as a way of showing their opposition to the present system of government.

Since the overthrow in 1957 of General Gustavo Rojas Pinilla, Colombia's only military dictator, this century abstentions have ranged between 43 per cent and 67 per cent of those eligible to vote.

The planting of a car packed with explosives in front of the presidential palace on Wednesday was the apparent peak of a campaign staged by M19 to show that Colombia's social problems cannot be solved by the present two-party system.

The Government of President Julio César Turbay Ayala has countered by accusing the guerrillas of trying to intimidate voters, and has urged the population to go to the polls to show their rejection of violence.

The two main parties, the Liberals and Conservatives, regard Sunday's poll as a general election which will determine their candidates for the presidential elections in May.

The Conservative Party is seeking the ratification of Dr Belisario Betancur as its candidate, while the Liberals are divided between supporters of Dr Alfonso López Michelsen, Government, and Dr Luis Carlos Galán.

The failure of either of the Liberal contenders to obtain a clear-cut lead would throw the nomination open to an extraordinary convention of the party which would be faced with a much wider field of candidates, none of whom would probably command enough support.

M19 emerged in 1972 as a left-wing faction of General Rojas Pinilla's Anapo party. It gained international attention in 1980, when a group of guerrillas held 13 ambassadors hostage in a two-month siege of the Dominican Republic's Embassy in Bogotá.

Early last year, two attempted "invasions" by M19 prompted President Turbay to accuse Cuba of training and arming the guerrillas, and to break diplomatic relations with Havana.

Since then M19 has combined urban actions with hit-and-run attacks against Army troops in the southern Amazon jungle of Caquetá. According to official figures, 278 guerrillas, 200 soldiers and 100 civilians were killed in armed clashes last year. — Reuter, AP.



President Turbay: Urging people to vote

Surinam: Army crushes attempted coup

Paramaribo, March 12. — Surinam's left-wing rulers said today that they had smashed an attempted coup and captured Wilfred Hawker, the rebel leader.

The incumbent-colonel Daysi Bouterse, head of the military Government, said in a communiqué that his forces were in full control of the country. Mr Hawker, aged 28, a former sergeant-major, asked his supporters to surrender to avoid more bloodshed in a recorded statement released by the authorities.

The rebellion, which began yesterday, was put down by government troops in an attack early this morning on a paramilitary Army camp held by the right-wing insurgents. Colonel Bouterse said Mr Hawker was wounded in the fighting and was being questioned. Some rebel troops were still free and

people here were urged to remain indoors.

The communiqué said that the authorities thought that a few people had been killed.

It was the second attempt in a year by Cn Hawker and supporters to topple Colonel Bouterse's Government, which seized power in 1980.

During the uprising, which Colonel Bouterse described as "wild and senseless", both sides broadcast appeals on radio and television for the support of the 375,000 population. The rebels promised that their National Liberation Council would form a Cabinet with no military members. — Reuter and AP.

El Salvador

Junta accused of killing 300

San Salvador, March 12. — The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador said today that security forces killed more than 300 people in San Vicente Department during three days of attacks in January.

Earlier reports placed the number of dead at about 100, but spokesmen for the commission said that the figures were revised after they received testimony from survivors and witnesses.

The 300 were killed by security forces in San Benito, Canpanario, La Fita Puente, Los Angeles and Las Lomas.

Leftist guerrillas claimed in a clandestine broadcast today that they have disabled a government helicopter bringing troop reinforcements to an offensive in Morazan province in the north-east.

The Salvadoreans are using American-supplied Huey I helicopters to move troops to and from the fighting. There was no immediate government comment on the claim and it could not immediately be determined if the incident involved an American helicopter.

The broadcast claimed to have killed many government soldiers in the Morazan operation and said that two guerrillas had died.

The guerrillas also said that they blew up the bridge by detonating a 500lb bomb that did not explode when it was dropped by a Salvadoran aircraft.

But this was denied by government sources, who said that the bridge was heavily guarded and was open normally to traffic.

Grenada: Defiance after US snub

From Jeremy Taylor, Port of Spain, March 12

Roars of anti-American defiance are likely to sound in the tiny Caribbean capital of St. George's, Grenada, tomorrow as the island's population celebrates the third anniversary of its 1979 revolution in the face of fierce American hostility.

Washington answers the 133-square-mile island as the eastern end of a strengthening left-wing axis that includes Nicaragua and Cuba, Grenada's only regional ally.

The United States fears that the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in St. George's is keen to foment revolution in other eastern Caribbean islands, and that it intends to open its international airport, now being built at a cost of \$71m (nearly £39m), to Cuban and Soviet aircraft, threatening United States security in the Caribbean and vital import routes through the area.

President Reagan, who believes that Grenada is in the "gripping grip of the totalitarian left", pointedly excluded Grenada from his Caribbean aid package announced in Washington last month. He has refused to accept Grenada's ambassador to the United States and ordered the American Ambassador in Barbados not to present his letters of credence in St. George's.

Last year, joint naval exercises off Puerto Rico by American and Nato forces included the mock invasion of an imaginary island strikingly similar to Grenada and the United States brought pressure on the International Monetary Fund and Development Bank to block financial aid for the island.

"We do not feel we have isolated Grenada," Dr Melvin Evan, the United States ambassador in Trinidad, said. "By its actions, Grenada has isolated itself."

Mr Maurice Bishop, the Prime Minister, a British-trained lawyer, aged 37, who seized power in a popular coup three years ago, insisted that Grenada poses no threat to the mighty United States. "The PRG has always wanted, and still wants, good relations with the Government of the United States," he wrote to President Reagan last August after an earlier letter went unanswered.

Mr Bishop also insists that the 9,000ft runway being built near St. George's with substantial help from Cuba, Libya, Algeria and Syria, is purely the means of developing the island's relatively untapped tourist potential and for the expansion of regional and international trade. At present Grenada is served by a 5,000-ft airfield

an hour's drive from the capital, which cannot take medium or large aircraft or night landings.

Mr Bishop also complained that the mercenaries are being trained in the United States without government interference, for deploying against certain regional States, including Grenada. This amounted to a virtual declaration of war by the United States against Grenada. The letter produced a two-paragraph reply from the Charge d'Affaires at the United States Embassy in Barbados, stating politely that the United States hoped for signs of a serious commitment in Grenada to improved relations and specifically "a policy of non-alignment and a truly democratic society".

The network of "mass organizations", established in Grenada as a substitute for Western-style democracy cut little ice in Washington, and neither do the PRG's reforms, which include free secondary education and health care. Nor are American troops shed over the island's economic problems, which derive mainly from an unsurprising slump in North American tourism and low commodity prices for its Cocoa, bananas and nutmegs.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Chemical war denial by Moscow

Moscow.—The Soviet Union has given a warning that it will match any chemical weapons produced by the United States, but says its own chemical warfare troops are purely defensive. (Michael Binyon writes.)

Soviet scientists and a Defence Ministry expert denied accusations that the Russians had used toxins in Afghanistan or in South-East Asia. They instead accused the Americans of raining down chemical weapons during the Vietnam war and of supplying chemical bombs to the Government of El Salvador.

Major-General Anatoly Kuntsevich said the Americans were building their chemical capabilities in an attempt to obtain strategic superiority over the Soviet Union. But he asserted that the Soviet armed forces were ready with a counterweight, which would include binary weapons if necessary.

Abscam man quits Senate

Washington.—Senator Harrison Williams, who was sentenced to three years in prison for his part in the Abscam bribery case, has resigned from the Senate, sparing his colleagues from having to expel him.

If he had been expelled, he would have been the first person to have been removed from the Senate since the American Civil War (Nicholas Pickford writes).

His announcement came after almost a week of drama in the Senate during which he pleaded his innocence, vowing that "God will vindicate me". The New Jersey Democrat was one of seven congressmen involved in the Abscam scandal. The others, all members of the House of Representatives, either resigned or were defeated while seeking reelection.

Yelling from Bulow jurors

Newport, Rhode Island.—A few hours after the jury in the Claus von Bulow trial retired, a court officer reported: "There is yelling and screaming going on in there." The 12 jurors, now in their second day of deliberations, took 89 state exhibits and 55 defence exhibits into the jury room, including the encephalogram needle that Mr von Bulow allegedly used to inject his wife, Martha, with insulin. She now lies in an irreversible coma in a New York hospital.

Genscher booted into silence

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who was forced to abandon an election speech by 200 Communist hecklers in Aachen, near Bremen.

The police, who did not intervene, said that Herr Genscher apparently saw no sense in continuing his speech amid the boos and whistles. He was campaigning for his liberal Free Democratic party, for the Lower Saxony state elections on March 21. — Reuters.

Poll coverage restricted

Jakarta.—The Indonesian Government has told foreign journalists that they will be able to cover the general elections on May 4 at province and district level, but not in the villages.

The Information Department said that in restricting coverage of the elections and the 45-day campaign period which started on Monday, it did not want to give anything but that "people in the villages might be very busy".

Pacific islands seek nuclear test ban

Geneva.—Twenty south Pacific island territories have called for local control over nuclear tests and a ban on storage of atomic waste in their regions at a four-day environment conference in Rarotonga, capital of the Cook Islands.

CORRECTION

The report on Tuesday on a European nuclear fusion project should have said that plasma from hydrogen isotopes could reach temperatures of 100m°C, not 100°C.

Begin promises £6m to loyal Arab villages

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 12

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, had a rare meeting today with a West Bank Palestinian when he held talks with Mr Mustapha Dubeen, founder of the village leagues now being backed by Israel as a counterweight to local support for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The meeting came amid reports that Israel is considering new measures to weaken the influence of the elected Arab mayors in the occupied territories. It followed this week's outlawing of the radical National Guidance Committee and the tough Israeli warning to Jordan not to interfere in the operation of the leagues.

The talks were requested by Mr Dubeen, a former Jordanian Cabinet Minister, who later told *The Times* that the Israeli Prime Minister had pledged to provide 200m shekels (about £6m) to support development projects over the next year in the 24 Arab villages attached to his Hebron league.

Mr Dubeen, who is provided with a round-the-clock Israeli guard after repeated Palestinian death threats, referred to Mr Begin as "this excellency" during the telephone interview from his West Bank home. The call ended when the line was suddenly cut without explanation.

Before he told me he had asked for the meeting to express dissatisfaction with the financial assistance offered by the Israelis. "We did not discuss politics," he said. "I only discussed the economic and social problems of our villages. I wanted to meet you because the Israeli financial year begins in April."

Asked whether he had discussed Jordan's threat to impose the death penalty on Palestinians who did not withdraw from the five village leagues over the next month, Mr Dubeen replied: "It was not necessary to raise the subject. Israel knows its responsibilities."

The official communiqué from Mr Begin's office said that Mr Dubeen had informed the Prime Minister

that the leagues of rural Palestinians had greater support than was generally known. He said that, despite constant threats from PLO supporters, most villages on the West Bank wanted relations of peace and understanding with Israel.

The Prime Minister responded with praise for the courage of the league leaders, one of whom was recently assassinated near Ramallah, and with an explanation of the Palestinian autonomy scheme proposed by Israel.

In recent years the only Palestinians to have met Mr Begin face to face are Mr Elias Freij, Mayor of Bethlehem, and Mr Rashad Shawwa, Mayor of Gaza. Both are bitter critics of the village league members, whom they dismiss as "quillings".

Despite the references in the communiqué, Western diplomats who monitor events on the West Bank still believe that the leagues have very little support, although it is acknowledged that without elections, precise estimates are difficult.

A panel of Israeli civil servants has rejected a proposal from the chief of information at the Foreign Ministry, Mr Moshe Yegar, that foreign correspondents with "hostile intentions" should be barred from entering and those already here preparing "hostile reports" should be expelled.

Details of the plan, presented to the Director General of the Prime Minister's office on February 3, were disclosed today by the Jerusalem Post. One section said: "Should these newsmen be discovered to be preparing a hostile report while in Israel, they will be asked immediately to stop their work and leave the country."

Despite rejection of the plan, drawn up in response to a critical ABC television film about Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank — the Foreign Ministry has been embarrassed that details of restrictive suggestions by its head of information should have been made public.

MiGs deal nearer agreement

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 12

The Soviet Union appears to have advanced a stage nearer agreement with President Hafez al-Assad to supply Syria with advanced Russian-built MiG-23 fighter aircraft and new ground-to-air missiles.

Marshal Pavel Kutakov, the Soviet Deputy Defence Minister and Air Force Commander, today handed the Syrian President a letter that is believed to have contained a promise to augment military supplies to the country.

Marshal Kutakov left Damascus this morning, but the Syrian authorities refused to disclose any details of his conversation with the President.

Well aware of both its military and political isolation, Syria has been seeking closer cooperation with the Soviet Union and has reportedly asked the Russians for a guarantee of intervention if the Israelis should take military action against it this spring. There is no confirmation of such a request, but the Russians have apparently given no such promise.

Syria already possesses an interceptor squadron of MiG 25 jets, but the Russians have yet to supply a more advanced version that is believed to be necessary to equal the performance of the American-built F 155 in service with the Israeli Air Force.

Syria's complement of MiG 17s and MiG 23s have proved no match for Israeli aircraft during dogfights over Lebanon.

Even if the Russians have agreed to send the newer machines to Syria, Syrian pilots would need several months to train on the aircraft before being able to undertake active operations.

PLO visit will test the Vatican

From Peter Nichols, Rome, March 12

The Palestinian question is about to test the Vatican's diplomatic skills. The arrival here next week of Mr Fawzi Kaddoumi, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization's political department. It is understood that he will be received privately by the Pope.

Arabs believe, and the Israelis fear, that this private meeting will be the prelude to formal recognition of the PLO by the Vatican and the subsequent visit from Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader.

Given the private nature of the occasion, the Vatican is making no comment, but formal relations with the PLO would follow the logic of the Vatican's diplomacy, under the present Pope, which is publicly sympathetic to the Palestinian claims to a homeland.

Vatican officials recently concluded a series of talks here with Jewish leaders on closer relations. The Palestinian issue was seen to be one of the most difficult obstacles. The Israelis will naturally take any move giving greater legitimacy to the PLO.

The delicacy of the Vatican's position is shown by the fact that the meeting with the Jews brought a warning from Catholics and other Christians in Jordan against a "victory for Zionism".

Mr Kaddoumi's visit, which begins on Tuesday, includes talks with members of the Italian Government on relations with the PLO. This is not new, however, because it will be his third visit and he has also met Italian ministers outside Italy.

Gaddafi's Austrian mission



Public worship: Colonel Gaddafi of Libya leaving the mosque at Vienna's Islamic Centre, after attending prayers there yesterday. Chanting supporters mingled with security agents in the crowd.

The Colonel changes his plan

From David Blow, Vienna, March 12

Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, on the third day of his visit to Austria, attended Friday prayers at the mosque in Vienna, and visited the city's Islamic Centre, instead of travelling to Linz and Salzburg, as originally planned.

In Linz he was to have toured the Voest steel plant, but the Libyan Minister for Heavy Machinery was sent instead. The change of plan was decided by Colonel Gaddafi yesterday. The reasons are not altogether clear, but probably have a great deal to do with Colonel Gaddafi's well-known impulsiveness and unpredictability.

The Austrians, aware of this, have said all along that the programme was subject to last-minute alterations. Colonel Gaddafi's decision not to go to Salzburg saved Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, one small embarrassment; Salzburg's conservative provincial Governor had claimed a prior engagement as an excuse for not attending the official banquet. The Governor's decision to absent himself reflected the strong critical attitude towards the visit of the country's conservative opposition.

When the visit was first announced on Monday, Dr Kreisky insisted that its main purpose was to promote bilateral trade. This always was improbable, and has suffered something of a setback with the Libyan announcement that they want to pay with oil

for future purchases of Austrian goods. In a speech last night at a dinner for Colonel Gaddafi, the Austrian Chancellor laid much stronger emphasis on the political aspects of the visit. Dr Kreisky told the Libyan leader that his visit could have importance for the future if it marked the beginning of a new Libyan orientation towards Europe.

He said that he did not want Libya and other African states to get the impression that Europe was willing to allow the Communist countries to monopolize relations with them. The visit had strengthened his conviction that there were many unexploited opportunities for understanding between Libya and the Western democracies, and in particular, he said, the United States. Answering one of his critics who have accused him of deliberately provoking the United States, Dr Kreisky emphasized Austria's total ideological friendship with "the great American democracy and its people".

At a press conference last night, Colonel Gaddafi warned that the economic war that the United States was waging against Libya would hurt others as well, and appealed to West European countries to stand by him in the face of what he called American aggression. West European countries would lose billions of dollars in trade with Libya, he said, if Libya was no longer able to sell its oil.

SABOTEURS PICK WRONG VINTAGE

From Our Correspondent, Paris, March 12

Protesting French growers who emptied 60,000 litres of wine from vats in the Mediterranean port of Sete yesterday chose the wrong target, according to the wine's owners.

The demonstrators, who blasted the vats open with explosives, thought the wine that poured out was Italian and that they had struck a fresh blow in their campaign against cheap imports from Italy. But the wine was actually French, a spokesman for the cooperative which owns the vat said today.

The attack, which turned the canal running through Sete wine red, was the most spectacular recent episode in the long-running war against Italian imports by growers in the mass-production wine area along the south-west Mediterranean coast of France.

It was clearly designed as a warning shot to the French Government, which has been given until late this month to apply a European court ruling that 340,000 hectolitres of Italian wine held at frontier posts must be released for distribution.

Although no group has claimed responsibility for yesterday's attack, the protesters were well organized and showed their awareness of the value of publicity by taking with them a cameraman from a local television station.

Further protests are being discussed for the weeks ahead, leading up to a rally on March 31. M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, today condemned the attack.

Khomeini regime sets up own Savak

By Edward Mortimer

A Ministry of State Security and Intelligence is to be established in Iran, under a Bill introduced into the Iranian Parliament on Thursday.

The name of the new ministry is identical to that of Savak, the secret police of the Shah's regime, except that the word "ministry" is substituted for "Organization".

Iranian exiles in Europe have seized on this development as an admission of the Khomeini regime's oppressive nature and growing isolation from the people.

The Labour Party is to establish formal contacts with the National Council of Resistance, a Paris-based group of Iranian oppositionaries headed by Mr Masud Rajavi, leader of the left-wing Muslim "People's Mujahidin" guerrilla organization.

A resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday by the international committee of the National Executive welcomes the formation of the council and expresses the party's intention to open a dialogue "to establish the most appropriate means by which we can lend our support to the democratic and socialist forces among the Iranian people".

It also urged the Council to "consider widening its base so that all progressive forces of Iran can join it". Some left-wing Iranian parties, while sympathetic to the council, have hesitated to join it because they feel Mr Rajavi has not given sufficiently detailed guarantees about democracy and human rights, or about autonomy for minorities, such as the Kurds, if he comes to power in Iran. They are anxious not to repeat the blank cheque given to Ayatollah Khomeini in 1979.

Mr Rajavi's office in Paris has released a statement giving details of doctors and nurses executed and tortured by the Khomeini regime. It listed 14 doctors whose executions have been announced officially and said that 15 others had not been announced.

Ayatollah Khomeini has appointed a new member of Iran's Council of Guardians, Tehran Radio said yesterday (Reuters report). The radio identified the new member as Hojatolislam Muhammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani, a former Prime Minister. He replaces Ayatollah Rabani-Shirazi, killed in a car accident on Tuesday.

Next on the European agenda—dubbed TV

From George Clark, Strasbourg, March 12

A European television channel transmitted via satellites could be in operation by 1983, the European Parliament in Strasbourg was told yesterday. The same pictures, covering news, politics, entertainment, education and sport, would be received in each European country, dubbed into the local language.

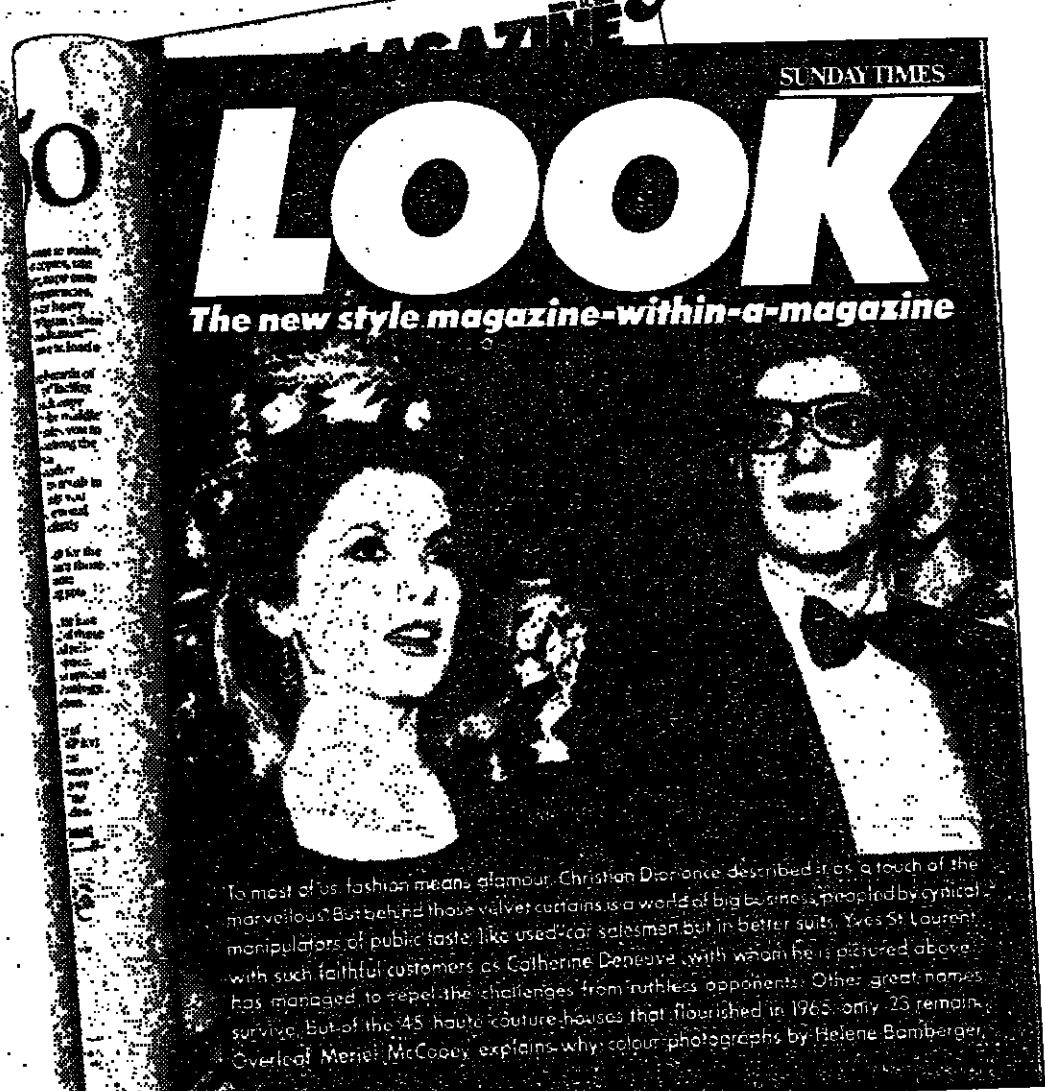
Parliament approved a resolution, presented by Herr Wilhelm Hahn, (West Germany) on behalf of the Youth and Information Committee, calling on broadcasting authorities in all 10 member states to make the fifth channels of the national satellites, expected to be in orbit in 1985, available to the European programme produced under the aegis of the European Broadcasting Union.

Test transmissions from the satellite will be made on a closed circuit between May 24 and May 30 this year and the programmes, according to Herr Hahn, will be monitored for quality by a specially selected audience. Language being the big problem, experiments will be made with dubbing and dubbing. Countries taking part are the United Kingdom, Italy, The Netherlands, West Germany, Belgium and Ireland.

Herr Hahn saw the advent of a Euro-channel as a decisive factor in creating closer cohesion between the peoples of Europe. "European unification will come only if the people want it," he said. "At present, information via the mass media is controlled at national level. Most journalists do not think European because their reporting role is defined in national or regional terms. Hence the predominance of negative reporting."

After the vote Mr Alasdair Hutton, Conservative MEP for South Scotland, a former broadcaster, said the programme would include direct broadcasts from the European Parliament. "A European programme would be the ideal way to broaden our horizons," he said. "It would not cut out local programmes. It would offer an extra choice. This is not a pipe dream. A typical evening could start with a European news magazine, followed by sport, then a French serial, a German popular music programme, a British documentary and an Italian film."

What's got into The Sunday Times?



If it wasn't for the name on the front cover of tomorrow's edition of our Colour Magazine, you could be forgiven for thinking it was something else.

Especially when you find another front cover two-thirds of the way through.

"Look"—our new-style 'magazine within a magazine', with features on beauty food, fashion and gardening—leads tomorrow with a

fascinating insight into the behind-the-scenes world of Yves St Laurent.

While the main Magazine carries in-depth features on the socialist who lives like an Emperor, some non-starters in the Space Race, and some extraordinary Kenyan elephants that actually...well, the new-look Sunday Times Magazine is out tomorrow.

Why don't you see it for yourself?

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The new-look Sunday Times Magazine...with the new 'Look' Magazine inside.

Traveller's Tales: in the first of an occasional series, Ted Simon revisits Brazil

Cockroaches and 10 dollars a day

Emily Macey, Jacky Steen, Sam McMahon, Nora Fundation and the rest of the crowd got on the same plane with me at Miami. They were under the general guidance of George Stegner, a man of distinction in his loose yet immaculate seersucker jacket and cotton pants. He had obviously done this kind of thing many times and seemed even to enjoy it.

There was a mix-up on the seating, and the Varig steward had to shuffle some Brazilian passengers about, because George wasn't going to let his party fray at the edges, not even on the plane. He flashed his big smile at them. "OK? OK! Everything's OK." Then the plane took off to the Amazon.

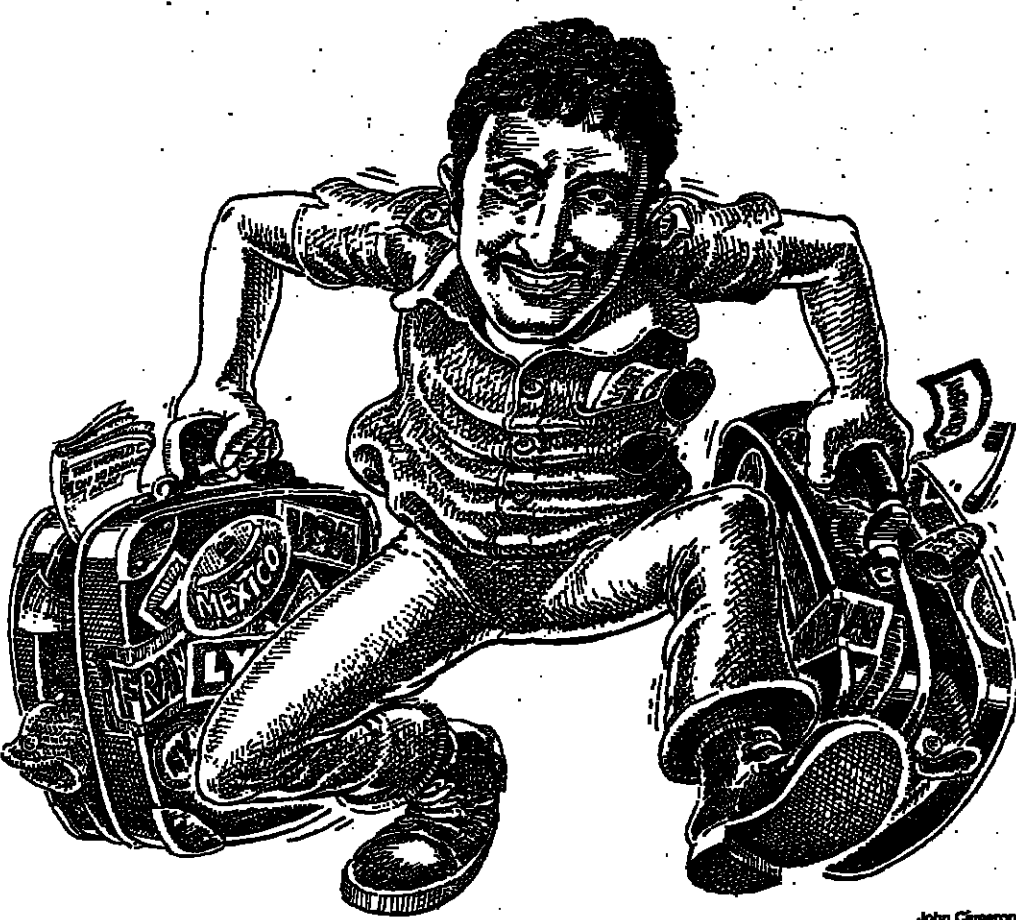
I watched them, gleaming their names from their lapel badges, with confusion and misgivings. I had already flown nine hours from London (Laker £95) and waited three more hours at the airport for another five hours. I would arrive at Manaus (Varig £265). A long time to be flying, but a ridiculously short time to be transported from London in winter to the heart of the equatorial rain forest, where I had never been before.

I was last in Brazil eight years ago, when I arrived at one of the northern ports on a grimy Greek freighter from Mombasa, having already ridden the length of Africa on a motorcycle. I should have been perfectly prepared for any experience, yet the shock of culture and climate so unbalanced me that I got myself locked away for a fortnight as a potential threat to the regime. What could I expect this time?

My confusion was caused by my companions at board. What was a seasoned and intrepid traveller like myself doing in such a place? They looked as though they might never have left Greenville, Kentucky, since their respective honeymoons at Niagara. Were we really going to the same place, across the same threshold?

In a sense, we weren't. They were destined, I supposed, to be transported through the 95 per cent humidity in air-conditioned coaches to an air-conditioned hotel. They would visit the opera house and make a cautious boat trip to the shore of the Amazon (actually not the Amazon at all, but the Rio Negro) to a carefully chosen settlement where they would be exposed to Indian "crafts" and festooned with beads and floral tributes.

Feeling vaguely uncomfortable, they would absorb as much of all this as they could through their cameras before flying on to Rio and eventually Greenville, where they would have a really great time showing slides, eating, drinking too much, and feel stupid every time I opened my mouth and... the problem was I really couldn't remember any more what it



John Cameron

was like in that other world where most of the human race still proliferates. Even reading my own notes, written years before, failed to restore the smells and tastes and touches of what we are pleased to call Third World poverty. I read how, after 13 months in Latin America, I had gone to a Los Angeles supermarket and felt physically sick at the obscene glut of idiotic, wasteful and unnecessary goods, but I could not honestly relive that feeling any more, nor the emotion that prompted it.

And although I had experienced great pleasures and rewards "out there", when I tried to recall them now they seemed trite and banal. But I did know for certain that I had lost something extremely precious and important to my life, and my main purpose in flying out here was to recover it.

The plane landed at three in the morning. Emily, Sam, Nora, George and the rest were quickly swept away on their pre-ordained course. I decided to spend the rest of the night sitting at the airport until my arteries stopped flaring and my mind caught up with my body. In any case, the kind of hotel I meant to patronize would not be functioning too well at that hour.

The airport soon emptied, leaving me alone under a huge concrete canopy open to the dark night air. Occasionally a husky female voice breathed flight information down on me from concealed speakers with the startling fidelity and intimacy

of a big-screen love affair. I dozed, then read through the golden pages of the *South American Handbook* (Britain's finest contribution to travel literature). There I found hotels ranging from £1 to £15 a night, and chose one, warmly recommended for its renovations and new management, at £2.50, thinking that my jet lag deserved some consideration. At nine I took the bus into Manaus.

And then it began. At the first bend in the road my luggage flew across the bus as we leaned over on two wheels. I had forgotten about the buses. The sweet smell of corruption (the material kind) overwhelmed me. The soft wet air enveloped me. I really had forgotten everything.

As I trudged from the bus station, streaming sweat, my sense of order and purpose collapsed in the general mess of rot and rubble and riddling rubbish that fills all the spaces where human traffic is insufficient to grind it down or push it aside.

I had forgotten the stench and roar and the aggression of the traffic, and the riotous variety of human shapes and conditions, from the paralytically drunk or diseased Indian stumbling his last ragged hours in the gutter to the exquisitely pressed and starched clothes and impassive faces of the well-to-do professional men picking at it by radar the perfect route for their impeccable shoes through the minefield of potholes and puddles that constitutes an average pavement.

Dragging my two bags, which already seemed much heavier than I had intended, I staggered up a hill to the Hotel Aurora. Just how much I had forgotten came home to me there. Beneath an impressively modern sign rising the full three stories of the building, the hotel entrance was like the door to a broom cupboard.

I was shown a room so utterly mean and miserable that I almost despaired; an eight foot square box of painted cement with no external window, only a row of louvred panes plump with dust looking on to the corridor, narrow mattress on one end, covered only with sheets too short and thin enough to see through, walls and ceiling impregnated with grime; a fan leaning precariously off the wall over the bed, held by a piece of fraying string; and a short coat hanging and marked down disavantages.

I would have liked to find George Stegner's group again and ask them what they had made of it all, but I could not trace them at any of the luxury hotels in Manaus. Which leaves me with a recurring and troubling fantasy: that they, Nora Fundation and company, are even now crewing a dug-out canoe up the Amazon towards Colombia through a hail of poison darts, with dependable George at the prow, three most stable on his chuck and a shotgun across his knee. If such things were possible I would have a lot of explaining to do.

That afternoon I explored a few other hotels mentioned in the handbook. They were undeniably grubbier. The acid test, that night, was the fat brown cockroach on my pillow when I switched on the light. It was large — two inches long at least — and probably quite elderly, since it was very slow to pick up of sight. I found it nauseating and had some difficulty forcing myself to lie down, yet at the same time I knew that only a few years ago I would scarcely have noticed

the beast; indeed I used to defend cockroaches against their loathsome reputation, for I could never discover the harm they did.

The purpose of this catalogue of woes is not to solicit pity but to demonstrate how ready tolerance is distorted by habit. Now as I write, 48 hours later, I find my room quite spacious. The hotel seems clean and friendly. I appreciate the fan in my room for its modern, silent three-speed action, because I now recall vividly the rusty, wheezing motors I knew at other times. I admire especially the tiled and polished floors, more level and hygienic than any other surfaces I have seen in Manaus so far. The cockroach has not returned but if it did I doubt that it would trouble me.

The life in the streets is immensely invigorating. People never open their mouths without smiling or laughing, and they show themselves, whatever their colour or circumstance, to be happier than any comparable swath of humanity off the streets of London or New York. I have already recovered one of the great pleasures of life, forgotten for some time: the release from ever wanting to have something or do something. The habit of compulsive action and compensatory consumption (which is like the air most of us breathe) takes years to discard, but because I lost it once before it is easier to throw off now.

I still feel fat and sticky, and I suppose here we can afford it. I probably drink too much beer. But I have crossed the line, and what it comes down to is feeling better on 10 dollars a day than Emily, Sam and Nora do on 50. There will be no more of my descent into the gutters of Latin America. These subjective findings, which form the basis of a sort of social relativity theory, seem far more important to me than meticulous observations of flora and fauna. The enforced change of habits and customs is what makes travel worthwhile, and gives the writer, and I hope the reader, a glimpse of where we stand in the general throng of humanity and a chance to count blessings and mark down disadvantages.

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Why has the official Labour response to Mr Pat Wall been so muted? He said in a speech last week that a Marxist Labour government would have to abolish the monarchy and the House of Lords, and sack the generals, admirals and air marshals, the senior civil servants and police chiefs and, in particular, the judges. Not quite what one would expect to read in the next Labour manifesto.

So on Monday the organization sub-committee of the National Executive Committee considered after his position as prospective parliamentary candidate for Bradford North, a role to which he has been elected in preference to the sitting right-wing MP, Mr Ben Ford, by the local constituency party. Mr Wall's position as general management committee — but in which he has not yet been confirmed by the NEC.

The organization sub-committee recommended that the local selection procedure should be conducted again. But it took this decision not because of Mr Wall's speech but because the matter had already been referred back to it by the NEC on account of technical irregularities in the first selection.

There is no confidence, however, in the mainstream of the party — ranging from the right to the traditional or Tribune left — that Mr Wall will now be unseated by the party in Bradford. It will be the same general management committee that takes the decision. Indeed, if the NEC later this month simply acts on the recommendation and just reappoints the Bradford constituency to go through its paces again it may even strengthen Mr Wall's position.

If he is confirmed as the constituency party's choice in a selection procedure with no irregularities this time, would it not be all the harder later to reject him on account of the speech? Might the NEC not be implying that he would be acceptable so long as the local selection procedure is regular?

Nor has the parliamentary leadership been as forthright as it might have been. Mr Foot has indeed reaffirmed the party's attachment to the parliamentary democracy. But at the meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party on Thursday evening, Mr Jeffrey Rooker, a member of the traditional left, complained that this was not enough. The Shadow Cabinet should have declared roundly that the Labour Party supports the constitutional monarchy and that a Labour government would not insist on any constitutional changes through the process of enabling legislation which would not afford an adequate opportunity for parliamentary scrutiny.

What then happened? Why should the NEC, not following the line of Mr Hattersley, who said on television on Sunday that Mr Wall was not a legitimate candidate for the Labour Party to endorse? Or of Mr Shore, who has said that it was clearly folly for the NEC to endorse any new candidates from the Militant Tendency while it was itself under inquiry? Does the leadership not appreciate the extent to which people like Mr Wall undermine the credibility of the party in the eyes of the electorate? Or does it hope that all the fuss will just blow over?

The answer is that a deliberate waiting game is being played. The idea is to postpone the main battle on Mr Wall and other Militants until after the report has been received from the official party inquiry into the



Pat Wall: his local party has been told to go through the selection procedure again — but there is no confidence in the mainstream of the party that he will be unseated.

Militant Tendency, and good care will be taken to see that this report is not available until after the local elections in May.

There is a great deal of concern not to rock the boat more than is absolutely necessary before then. But once those elections are over it would be a good moment for the NEC to act upon the basis of a report concluding that the Tendency was infringing Clause Two of the Labour constitution by acting in effect as a party within the party and possibly that there had also been financial irregularities affecting Militant.

That is the theory. But its application in practice will depend on a number of assumptions proving correct. The first, that the report states will be forthrightly condemning Militant. Confidence is now growing within the party that it will be. But the critical question then will be what the NEC will do about it. Will Mr Foot

provide a strong lead? And is the balance of power on the NEC still such as to give him the controlling power when he cares to exercise it?

The record of this year's NEC has been disappointing up to now. At the end of the Brighton conference in October there was a good deal of confidence on the right and in the centre of the party that the balance on the new NEC had been decisively shifted away from the left on the critical issues. This was based on the belief that Mr Foot would throw his weight against the left for the sake of order and stability, and that the traditional or moderate left would go with him on the major questions.

It has worked like that only occasionally, such as in the rejection of Mr Peter Tatchell as the candidate for Bermondsey. More often Mr Foot has preferred to pursue the holy grail of party unity. This has meant bestowing tolerance on those who are not prepared to accept the party because of his recollection of his own days as a party rebel, he has frequently expressed his abhorrence of witch hunts. His most endearing qualities as a man have been the very ones which have undermined his performance as leader in these harsh conditions.

Some on the right put their trust in his weakness. They believe he is a man who can be leaned upon. The trouble is that a man who can be leaned upon from one direction can also be leaned upon from another. Mr Foot has been persuaded that if he did anything more terrible to the Militant Tendency than wring his hands he would thereby be sacrificing the spirit of Bishop's Stortford.

The uncomfortable truth is that it would be impossible for him or for any other leader to keep everybody in the party happy and to give the electorate the assurance it will want that Labour is not becoming increasingly in thrall to the hard left.

The reason for the growing confidence in the party mainstream — including a number of the traditional left — that the NEC will take action against Militant is that it is believed that if he did anything more terrible to the Militant Tendency than wring his hands he would thereby be sacrificing the spirit of Bishop's Stortford.

To condemn Militant is one thing: to find the means of taking effective action against all those who are of the Tendency will be more difficult. But the whole strategy of the waiting game depends on the assumption that delay does not matter because, when the moment comes to act, it will be possible to do the job thoroughly.

On the first weekend of the 1982 Bradford tourist season, Ian Bradley reports on how visitors are being lured to the city of derelict warehouses and disused railway cuttings.

As factories and workshops go on short time or close, railway sidings rust and shops are boarded up, the industrial parts of the city come more and more to resemble a derelict urban wasteland, the symbols of their former strength and prosperity standing like tombstones of a lost civilization.

Seen from another point of view these areas provide an enormous potential museum of Britain's industrial past. With industrial archaeology and railway mania among the fastest growing national pastimes, can tourists not be lured to the dark, satanic mills and derelict sidings of northern towns where once the only thought was of escape to the warm south?

This idea of reversing the normal flow of tourist traffic within Britain is being taken up by a number of northern industrial cities. None has seized it with quite such enthusiasm as the metropolitan district of Bradford which is building a successful tourist industry on the basis of its mills, old railway lines and other relics of the days when it was Worstedsopolis, the woollen textile capital of the world.

Bradford suffers from what the advertising men would call severe image problem when it comes to promoting its charms as a tourist resort. It has the unenviable distinction for example, of having the least visited cathedral in the British Isles.

In fact the business of promoting tourism has been taken very seriously by the city fathers. It is undertaken by the council's economic development unit (whose motto is "the myth breakers") which two years ago appointed a full-time tourism officer, Maria Glor. Last year she received more than 8,000 inquiries about the weekend breaks which are the most successful features

Bradford, gateway to the past

of Bradford's tourist programme.

This weekend sees the start of the 1982 season and the first of a series of weekends based on West Yorkshire's extensive steam railway network. A group of enthusiasts will be exploring the delights of the Middleton colliery railway, the first in the world to have a steam powered locomotive (in 1812), which is now run by enthusiasts to carry scrap metal from the main line to local firms as well as for passenger trips.

Also included in the weekend tour are visits to two of the country's best known preserved railways, the North Valley between Keighley and Oxenhope, and the Yorkshire Dales, and to the National Railway Museum in York.

The railway weekends will be alternating with weekends exploring Bradford's industrial heritage. They proved particularly popular last year, the highlight being a visit to Saltaire, the model village created by the great Victorian industrialist and philanthropist, Sir Titus Salt, to house the workers in his enormous worsted mill which still dominates the Aire valley. There is also a tour of Bradford's wool warehouses,



Steaming ahead on the Worth Valley line

now gradually being converted to wine bars and casinos.

The great majority of those who went on the industrial heritage weekends last year were from the south. More than 10 per cent came from London, one of this year's weekends. It is not difficult to see the attraction. Going round Salt's enormous mill, which is still working, is to step back into conditions which most southerners only know about from books and television programmes about the Industrial Revolution.

The noise of the spinning and weaving machines is deafening, the stench of the dyeing vats overpowering. The machinery is still essentially the same as that found in Bradford's industrial museum and much of it is operated, as it always has been, by women.

It would be hard to find a more powerful expression of the two nations theme than the vision of well-heeled pen pushers from the stockbroker being coming up north to watch the manual working classes and inspect the monuments to their toil. Yet Bradfordians show no sense of envy or discomfiture about the new status as quaint relics of a vanishing industrial civilization. Rather they display to their visitors an intense pride in their past and present achievements and regale them with the straightforward, practical philosophizing which has always been part of the Yorkshire character.

If they are to go the way of the Greeks and Portuguese, they will do so with dignity, with a proper Pennine pride, and with a good deal of honest West Riding grit.

Ian Bradley

Why Mayor Koch should run and run

Sitting under a Matisse in his office at Gracie Mansion, Mayor Koch is not unlike the odalisque in the painting, Edward Irving Koch, the 61-year-old Jewish Mayor of New York, tells a favourite story. "I was in a pensioners' home in the Bronx and I was addressing nearly 200 elderly men and women. I said, 'I know crime is on your mind and I want to tell you that a judge was mugged this week... and do you know what he did, ladies and gentlemen? He called a press conference and said to reporters, "This mugging of me will in no way affect my judgment and decisions in matters of this kind." At which point one of those old grandmas who always get at the back of the hall stood up and said "then mug him again!"

That story always gets a few laughs and "Hizoner" the Mayor is fond of jokes, well satisfied that he is known, variously, as "Mayor Culpa", "Mayatollah" and "New York's muckster". He regularly refers to his critics as "dummies" and once called Billy Carter a "whacker".

His answers to reporters' questions frequently run only to one word: "baloney" or "bullshit". Koch is well aware of the impact of such slogans and he appreciates the value, in television-dominated milieu, of the quick quip, the witty aside that makes an ideal 30-second television spot. Many of the best quotes about him are his own, such as "People like me because I shoot from the hip".

That popularity has continued long enough for it to be now considered an interesting phenomenon because it means that although Koch often seems to shoot his mouth off casually he is nevertheless expressing what a good many Americans feel inside. The simple one-liners are not as simple as they sound and are in fact this politician's direct way of communicating with the public without the intervening and possibly distorting medium of a reporter or television interviewer.

As recently as last year he said that his row at the Walling Wall in Jerusalem was "binding". More recently he was re-elected

Mayor of New York having been endorsed by both Democratic and Republican parties. The second is the more crucial fact.

Koch's own political views are changing and what he is seeing is a new political philosophy being worked out, and in public. He is, for the most part, a bundle of moods and views that were once contradictory (like being a liberal and being for capital punishment) but now no longer appear so. He is no ideologue, has an abhorrence of them, and seeks refuge in the way of the SDP in Britain, that for the time being people do not want ideologies of any kind thrust at them.

He knows that if he can tap the mood of the state, he has undoubtedly tapped the mood of the city, there will be no stopping him. Nobody has mentioned the White House yet — but Koch himself, when announcing that he would run for Governor last week, refused to rule out higher office such as the Vice-Presidency (and who, deep down, wants that when he can have the other?)

Important as it is to understand his style and what it means, it would mean nothing without some achievements, however controversial. So what are they?

When Koch took over New York, on January 1, 1978 the city was virtually bankrupt and facing a massive deficit. By last year, 12 months ahead of schedule, New York's books were indeed balanced, and with a surplus of 200m dollars. Koch did this by limiting the increase in city spending to less than 4 per cent a year, compared with 11 per cent by the Federal government, and by eliminating thousands of city jobs. He did it too by encouraging businesses to come back to New York through tax cuts and an increase in the budget of the Office for Economic Development, which looks after services to industry.

As a result, 110,000 new jobs have been created in the city in the past 18 months, spare capacity has declined from 15 per cent in 1976 to 3 per cent now, retail sales have surged by 16 per cent and last year the city security bonds regained their credit rating as a good investment.



Mayor Koch: a man of the people

co-operation Mayor Koch sought and gave New York the 2,000m dollar loan guarantees needed to get the city going again.

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brought Koch some vociferous critics. The 75,000 city jobs saved, for instance, have involved cutting the police force by a massive 20 per cent, 19,000 teachers have gone, along with 2,000 of the city's 2,500 road sweepers. Consequently, many of the city services have, in the words of a Citybank economist, "been brought to the point of breakdown".

Crime worries almost everyone. Robberies are at an all-time high, although the Mayor is never slow to point out that New York is only "only" ninth nationally in crime statistics, and is not even No. 1 in rape and murder. The subway system (not directly the Mayor's responsibility) is a disgrace — old, inefficient and unsafe. This has provoked a vicious circle: numbers riding the subway are decreasing and this has forced the system into an annual deficit in excess of 100,000 dollars. The tunnel under Park Avenue has just been declared in danger of collapse by some engineers and the city's water system leaks 100 million gallons of water every day.

In this year's budget, Koch has decided that the city can afford 1,000 more policemen, 1,000 more teachers and 400 more school guards. Fine, say his critics but they see this only as proof of their argument. Koch got rid of the policemen and teachers in the first place — and why do the schools need those guards?

There is a strong faction which contends that Koch's policies have for the most part benefitted the white middle-class in the city, at the expense of blacks and Hispanics. The improvement in conditions for businesses has helped whites, the noticeable deterioration in services has adversely affected minorities.

It is fair to say that Koch is a shade ambivalent about this. On the one hand he points out that he has appointed a higher proportion of blacks to top administrative jobs than any of the three mayors who preceded him. On the other hand, he Hispanics allegedly he is against that in-political reality is a better weapon than optimism.

without bodyguards.

The Mayor, for his part, does not deny he is a friend to the middle-class. I want the middle-class to know they have a friend in city hall, that when people mocked them in the Sixties, they were wrong. The middle-class was right. Honesty, Industriousness, all of it.

If Koch deserves a lot of the credit for making New York a richer, but dirtier, noisier, less safe city, he is also the first to acknowledge the luck, both good and bad, which he has been saddled with. For example, inflation, business sales, income and business taxes have gone up 50 per cent in his term, adding 1,000m dollars annually to the city coffers.

On the other hand, New York has a financial burden which Koch thinks wrong. The sludge factory is one: Federal regulations insist that the city processes waste sludge and must not dump it at sea, which Koch thinks is just as safe and would save \$5m dollars a year. The Medicaid system is another. New York is the only city to contribute 25 per cent of its Budget itself — most other places pay less than 10 per cent. (but changes are afoot there).

These are perhaps the usual things a politician has to juggle with, and Koch's record, when you examine it, would probably not set him apart from any other successful politician. That is why we must turn back to his style: many ways he is a real man of the people. No one would call him good-looking or glamorous — he waits in the queue at cinemas, does not expect any special treatment.

Koch calls himself a "liberal with sanity". Others say he is now a neo-conservative or a crypto-Republican. The best description is probably Irving Kristol's, who said by a "liberal Democrat" "mugged by reality".

As Koch knows only too well, there's a lot of mugging about. In an era of diminishing expectations, Mayor Koch has correctly calculated that in-political reality is a better weapon than optimism.

Peter Watson



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CARE FOR THE COURTESIES

When a previous Pope — it was Pius IX in 1850 — proposed, not to visit his flock in England, but merely to organize them in dioceses it was the Prime Minister, no less, who led the counter-attack against papal aggression. Writing to his friend the Bishop of Durham Lord John Russell denounced the move as insolent and insidious, declared his indignation to be greater even than his alarm, and declared even his alarm at the pretensions of a foreign sovereign to be less than his alarm at the conduct of the Tractarians, unworthy sons of the Church of England within her own gates. (That at any rate is John Morley's summary of its contents.) The letter was published in the newspapers on the day it was dated, which was November 4. Next day's Guy Fawkes bonfires burned with an extra sparkle.

Things have moved on a bit since then, but Liverpool can still throw up a flicker of those fires. "No Popery" now largely absent from polite society, has refuge still in a few fundamentalist, Calvinistic, isolated and impetuous congregations, and Liverpool (which is one of the two cities of Great Britain to have been colonized by the religious sociology of Belfast) can muster, or provide a venue for, a posse of zealots to shout obscene abuse at the Archbishop of Canterbury preaching and at prayer in the parish church, because he extends a hand of welcome to Pope John Paul II. It was an outrage borne with dignity by Dr. Kuncic, but possibly salutary reminder that all is not as smooth in Christian

England as a ride in the ecumenical limousine.

The Pope was invited to England, with an extension to Scotland, by his own bishops here; and the purpose of the visit is stated to be pastoral. He will, for half a day, at Canterbury, also be the guest of the Church of England, though the proceedings are planned to embrace all the other considerable Christian churches in the land. It is not a "state" visit. The Pope does not make them. The fact that he is head of the Vatican state is least of his dignities. But this Pope's journeys have assumed some of the characteristics of a royal progress. It is at this point that various misgivings appear.

One is that, if the expectation is entertained of a multitudinous triumph of the sort achieved elsewhere, the Pope's party may be disappointed. The English and Scots are not famously demonstrative, except at football, and Roman Catholics are not all that thick on the ground; and while the Pope is also a controversial figure, some of whose moral admonitions provoke contradiction outside and even inside his communion.

Another aspect of the visit that more directly concerns the reformed churches is Britain's that of protocol and symbolism. Churchmanship on this island is of many colours. All bar the orange range mean to deal courteously with the papal visit. Most have uttered representative words of welcome of varying warmth. A few look forward to a measurable quickening of

the pace of church unity. But all are sensitive to the formalities, and the possibility that they may be placed in positions of unwarranted deference.

Two examples: at Canterbury there was to have been a formal gathering at which the Pope would address assembled representatives of the reformed churches. That has tactfully been converted into a circulatory session in which they will mingle on terms of equality. In Scotland the Pope wishes to meet the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland but the only time his tour operators could at first find was breakfast time, although it had been assumed that the meeting would take place at a more commodious time of day. Trivia, perhaps. But when long-controverted questions of status and subordination arise these trivia count. There is a wish to be welcoming, an acknowledgment that much of a doctrinal nature that excited hostility has now been adjusted between Anglicanism or Protestantism and Rome. But still care is taken lest anyone be compromised by the symbolism of the occasion.

This will call for much sensitivity on the part of those who steer the Pope through his engagements. There is no reason to doubt that the sensitivity will be attempted, only whether it will be achieved. As for the advancement of church unity, observance of these nuances implies that the process is seen, not as one of absorption, but as mutual recognition more fully and more freely granted.

VOTING THE STRASBOURG WAY

How to elect the members of the European Parliament, for which the second direct elections are to be held in 1984, has come to the fore again. Last time, in 1979, it was agreed that each country could choose its own system, so Britain (but not Northern Ireland) kept its traditional method of first-past-the-post in the new European constituencies. But this time the intention is to have the same electoral system in each of the ten member countries of the Community. The first steps in this direction have now been taken by the Parliament itself, which voted this week in favour of a regional list system, a form of proportional representation widely used by the Conservative and Labour, were almost alone in voting against the resolution.

Should Britain hold put again for its own individual system, whether it be first-past-the-post or the additional member system, another form of proportional representation which was proposed by the Conservatives in Strasbourg this week? It has the opportunity to do so, because the Strasbourg vote is only advisory, and the matter will now come before the Council of Ministers, where any decision has to be unanimous. And after that the Council's decision has to be approved by national parliaments.

At a time when Britain's "European credentials" are being called into question, this would hardly seem to be an issue on which to have another row with our partners. It is not as if the results of the 1979 elections revealed some superior brand of democracy. On the contrary, the "first-past-the-post" system when applied to the large European constituencies produced a very unbalanced result, with over-representation of the Conservatives, Labour, and no Liberals at all. So the case for some form of proportional representation at the European level is strong, particularly since it has already been used in Northern Ireland.

There are, of course, objections to the regional list system: chief of which is that it favours the party organizations too much, while losing the concept that an MEP has a responsibility towards a particular constituency. The additional member system or that of the single transferable vote, used last time in both parts of Ireland, are not open to the same objection. But the real resistance at Westminster will come from the fear that adoption of any form of proportional representation at the European level will be the thin end of the wedge, leading irresistibly to the introduction of a similar system in purely British elections. However it would be quite appropriate to have different systems for the two types of election. The main argument in favour of the first-past-the-post system is that it is the best way of getting a clear result in favour of one party, so that a stable government can be formed. But that does not apply to the European elections, which do not issue in a government, but simply seek to ensure a fair representation of the main strands of political opinion.

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THE CHURN TURNS FULL CIRCLE

A coolness has arisen in Gloucestershire between the cows and the schoolchildren. Across the fence between pasture and playground, big long-lashed eyes exchange reproachful glances of nascent mistrust. The stage has not yet been reached where bands of parents invade the classrooms to stick health warnings in picture-books about life on the farm. But the first stirrings of another campaign for wholesomeness are unmistakably being borne on the spring air. A cloud falls on the pastoral childhood idyll of swelling udder and frothing pail, for parental concern is bound to communicate itself in spite of efforts at concealment: children are quick to sense atmosphere, so are cows.

It is all the fault of the EEC. After months of haggling at the great milking parlour in Brussels, representatives of the cattle of ten countries agreed in October to make a subsidy available from Community funds to schools supplying cheap milk to their pupils. Gloucestershire education committee is shortly to consider whether to take advantage of this provision, which is warmly

supported by Wilts and Glos National Farmers' Union. But a group led by a local doctor has put in a counter-plea that the scheme should be turned down, for fear that it might encourage obesity in the county's children and expose them, in later life, to the extra risk of heart disease associated with high blood cholesterol.

Belief in the unhealthiness of milk products is American in origin, and American fads often run well over here. There is some statistical evidence of risk, though in relation to the pupil's daily third of a pint (one-ninth to the floor, one-ninth down the jumper and one-ninth down the throat) it must be as remote as that associated with eating mint humbugs, or walking to school. But it is an established principle that in these matters danger is dangerous, and that no-one who quibbles over degree can claim to be a lover of children. The subsidy is expected to run to £11m this year. The placards and lapel badges practically write themselves: "Is £11m the price of our children's health?" and "Teacher leave that child alone. We don't want cholesterol." It is a debating advantage that the subsidy is from the EEC and therefore easily represented as a ploy by the agricultural lobby to unload more milk (a shameful and unjust imposition).

The campaign has all the marks of having high mileage potential. Only one thing jars. Only the other day, it seems, there was another campaign which ran and ran and gave much innocent pleasure to all who took part. It was against the decision of Mrs Thatcher, then Minister of Education, to stop schools giving free milk to children between seven and eleven. The opposition, which had abolished the same concession for children over 11 only a little earlier, proclaimed that this was the wickedest attack on childhood since Mr Bumble. The slogan "Thatcher the Milk Snatcher" raised the future Iron Lady to national prominence: it can be said to have been the making of her politically. But where in the demonology will a milk snatcher figure now? Will the wheel turn full circle, and Mrs Thatcher, bearing cholesterol from Brussels, be made into a new bogey, the "Milk Lady"?

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Support for PR

From Lord Harlech. Sir, The European Parliament has now voted for a common system of elections in all member countries by proportional representation. PR will ensure fair representation in the European Parliament of all major political opinions in the United Kingdom and bring us into line with the

practice of our European partners. Opinion polls in the United Kingdom have repeatedly shown overwhelming support for a fairer electoral system. The case for such a system is even stronger where, as in the European Community, there is no question of a government being formed. May I appeal to the British Government, through your

columns, not to thwart the democratic will of the European Parliament and of the British people by trying to reverse this recommendation when it goes to the Council of Ministers for decision. Yours faithfully, HARLECH, House of Lords, March 11.

Press initiative in context of nuclear proliferation

From The Reverend Dr Kenneth Greet

Sir, Some months ago (October 21, 1981) you published a letter in which I argued that clear-cut moral and unilateral approaches to disarmament overlooked the fact that progress in the former depends on willingness to consider initiatives of the latter sort. I concluded with an appeal to President Reagan and President Brezhnev to go together to the UN Special Session on Disarmament. I said that if they jointly put forward some agreed plans this would be widely acknowledged as evidence of real statesmanship.

Two things have happened since then. I received telephone calls from both the American and Soviet Embassies asking me to receive their First Secretaries to discuss the matter. They came on separate occasions and gave me a full and courteous exposition of the foreign policies of their governments. The speeches they made were of a high standard. Both asserted the desire for peace, but both, with a sincerity that I found no cause to question, argued the regrettable necessity for massive arms expenditure to counter the real threat from the other side. It was altogether a distressing demonstration of the extent to which we become the victims and prisoners of our own propaganda.

My visitors left me with polite acknowledgements of the eminent wisdom of my proposal about the UN Special Session. But now a second thing has happened. We learn that President Reagan will at that very time be stealing the limelight in Europe when he attends the Council of NATO and that he expects to address the members of the British Parliament. I hope that large numbers of people will feel it right to persuade him that he would be better employed elsewhere. Yours sincerely, KENNETH G. GREET, Secretary of the Conference, The Methodist Church, Conference Office, 1 Central Buildings, Westminster, SW1 March 11.

From Mrs Elizabeth Young. Sir, There is one question that should be asked about Trident that was mentioned neither by you in your leader, "Trident's fourth dimension", nor by David Greenwood in his article, "A taxpayer's guide to Trident's true cost" (March 8). It is this: given that the unavoidable limits to the acquisition of more and more expensive weapons are now visible to most governments (including the Soviet and the American as well as the British), given that the US Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (SALT) should be beginning fairly soon, and given that no one has yet come up with a more plausible disarmament process than verified reductions to minimum deterrent level, we need to think about how Trident would make out for us in the context of SALT. The trouble is that five Trident

boats, be they C4 or D5, cannot be reduced to anything less, given in turn that five boats is the smallest number that makes strategic sense, and that the number of warheads in a missile, could not be verified other than over-intrusively.

Our present Polaris force would only enter the reduction lists fairly far on in a strategic arms reduction process; but a British Trident D5 force would become important in the overall equation considerably earlier, what then?

The trouble is that Tridents, whether C4 or D5, are, as units, too big.

This is probably bad for the Americans too, who no doubt are buying Trident because it is there — just as we seem to be doing.

But should not the British Government be looking rather further ahead than the shelf in front of it? Yours etc, ELIZABETH YOUNG, 100 Bayswater Road, W2, March 11.

From Mr Patrick Duffy, MP for Sheffield, Attercliffe (Leamport). Sir, In an otherwise sympathetic assessment of the case for Trident you call on the Prime Minister in your leader of March 8 "to issue a full defence summary... at the earliest opportunity and insist that the costs be 'clearly spelled out'." What you do not make clear is that the United Kingdom is a member of NATO and, therefore, you fail to insist that the case for Trident also be made against the background of overall Alliance strategy and objectives.

Recurrent allocation has become crucial for our allies, as well as ourselves, as budgetary constraints intensify. Hence the recent emphasis on burden-sharing. As the division of task principle is increasingly adopted within the Alliance two perceptions must prevail. The first is that Trident is incremental at best, and a needless duplication at worst. The second is that Trident might hamper what is obviously the United Kingdom's most important contribution to the Alliance — her maritime role and in particular her anti-submarine warfare operational role in the Atlantic.

There has always been some debate over the relative importance of optional weapon systems, with the object of achieving the right mix in the light of the changing nature of the threat and increasing complexity of the operational environment. The danger that now confronts us, if I may continue to draw upon the United Kingdom's assigned maritime role, for example in the eastern Atlantic and Channel, where we provide 70 per cent of the ready force, is

1. That the mix of weapon systems will reflect more and more budgetary pressure rather than operational need. 2. That deterrence, depending upon a flexible response, will be affected, for Trident adds nothing to the nuclear capacity of the United States, whereas the current cuts in the Royal Navy's

surface fleet strike at the other end of the flexible response spectrum. 3. That consequently John Nott's selection of weapon systems will reflect a narrowing of the options, such as increasing reliance on the hunter-killer submarines and maritime patrol aircraft, for example, rather than a balanced and interdependent force, including escort vessels and other surface units.

4. That such a development in conventional weaponry may have the effect of lowering the nuclear threshold as a dire consequence of a high-risk strategy in the north Atlantic in relation to reinforcement and supply.

This explains why there is hardly any support for Trident among our Allies. Where it exists in the United States it is more than matched by concern about the future size and shape of the Royal Navy's surface fleet. Clearly, a greater precision in Alliance priorities is required if we are to provide for the most efficient use of increasingly scarce resources. However, so long as the Prime Minister and Defence Secretary insist on maintaining the appearance of an all-round contribution by the United Kingdom to the Alliance, this Government's defence posture will remain unconvincing within the Alliance and its defence policy will remain confused.

Yours etc, PATRICK DUFFY, House of Commons, March 9.

From Mr George Delf. Sir, Nothing could better illustrate the accelerating degeneration of our civilization than your blood-chilling statement (March 8): "it is a very serious prospect to take the risk that at some future date we might be faced with the extinction of these islands, when in return we might only be able to threaten a few cities".

This is the suicidal criminality of the "balance of terror" rationalized to pave the way for the latest monstrosity, Trident.

A few short years ago "unrestricted submarine warfare" was recognized by every major Power, including our own, as a war crime. Not because those ancient boats might destroy whole cities, but because it was thought criminal to sink unarmed merchant ships and leave the crew to drown. What innocence.

According to you we now have cause for shame when our latest submarines can only obliterate "a few cities". We are indeed becoming brutes in pin-striped suits.

Survival, of our civilization requires outright rejection of nuclear terrorism in all its morbid forms and an assertion that continued life on earth depends on a practical application of genuine mutual respect. The Soviet Union is a struggling, confused culture, clinging to outdated dogma. Just like ours.

Sincerely, GEORGE DELF, The Old Vicarage, Woodard, Suffolk.

important therapeutic and training activities because of alleged security risks which have more to do with prejudice than security. Governors and other senior staff often have little opportunity to influence even if they want the rehabilitation programme within the prison. There is a feeling abroad that the most important aspect of management expected by London is the containment of discontent by prisoners and staff alike. To that end, "accommodation" with some would say appeasement of — pressure groups is essential.

The majority of short and medium-stay prisoners are inadequate in terms of personality, training, personal relationships and other attributes required for modern life. Their containment in unsuitable buildings tends to attract a number of staff who are either authoritarian personalities or social dogooders. Either type merely aggravates the problems and eventually fail foul of the system.

As in all good management requirements, the remedy must come from the top. The top does not lead as it should. The physical conditions cannot be changed for a long time, but the use of the declining sums of money, in real terms, could be greatly improved and a new sense of purpose and policy given to the service. It would serve the uniformed staff just as much as the prisoners.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ALAN RICHMOND, Joplings, 6 Springfield Drive, Wedmore, Somerset.

relative should be consulted. This strikes me as providing adequate safeguards without hampering treatment unduly. At the present time there is great difficulty in obtaining places in hospital for mentally disordered offenders and if added restrictions are placed on treatment it seems certain that the position will become even more difficult with the consequent imprisonment of those who rightly should be receiving treatment in hospital.

It is to be hoped that Professor Gumm's warning will be heeded to prevent the gross injustice that will follow even fewer mentally disordered offenders receiving the help they require and the already overloaded prison system being forced to cope with highly disruptive men and women with grossly inadequate facilities. Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS I. ACRES, Chairman, Rochford Magistrates' Court, Thundersley Lodge, Rummymede Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet.

From Mr Eric Ambrose. Sir, On Dec 14 1971, under the heading "Forever Ambrose" you noted in The Times Diary my rejection slip from the Editor of Building, received after 19 years. Today I have received a rejection card from the Editor of The Times postmarked March 5, 1982.

an developing, slowly, a paranoid suspicion of editors. ERIC AMBROSE, 100, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill, NW7.

Remedies for unemployment

From Lord Taylor

Sir, It is seldom that I find myself in agreement with Lord Kaldor. But his letter (March 9) expresses precisely a fundamental truth. If unemployment is to be defeated by reflection, the unavoidable price to be paid is wage and salary control and price and rent control, with all the political struggling and bureaucracy which these involve. Otherwise the remedy is purely transient and the end result for the patient is worse than his first state.

Those who advocate "regulation" as a cure for unemployment (i.e. the leaders of the Labour and Social Democratic parties) must be repeatedly asked whether they are also advocating wage, price and salary control. If they will not come clean they are offering a dishonest prospectus. Only the Liberals seem to have accepted these unpalatable truths.

The Thatcher system of controlling prices by competition and monetary restraint, and wages by unemployment, has least the merit of logic, even if it is at the same time brutal. We can, as it were, choose amputation or splinting in perpetuity. What we cannot have is a cure by painless monetary injection, however big.

Yours faithfully, TAYLOR, House of Lords, March 11.

Budget question

From Mr Hugh Williams

Sir, Isn't it odd how, year after year, successive Chancellors fail to make the one logical, obvious and uncontroversial change in the Budget, namely to change the end of the income-tax year from April 5 to March 31?

All other tax years (ie corporation tax, VAT, etc) end on March 31; all other Government department accounts run to March 31. There is even a law which directs the Government to end all its financial years on March 31 and yet, for some extraordinary and unexplained reason, we still have to complete our tax returns with details that related to the illogical and maddeningly awkward year which begins on April 6 in one year and ends on April 5 in the next.

It would make far more sense if the income-tax return ran from April 1 to March 31. Yours faithfully, HUGH WILLIAMS, Lower Willows, Peter Tavy, Tavistock, Devon.

Cattle market welfare

From Mr D. C. E. Roberts

Sir, In his letter (March 11) Mr Griffith rebukes his employers, the RSPCA, for making their cattle market inspectors redundant, and for doing the same to other authority inspectors and the ministry staff — cares about the welfare of animals in markets.

With respect, that claim is just not true, at least so far as this author is concerned, as its enforcement actions, including prosecutions, bear witness. We care and shall continue to care.

So far as the ministry are concerned, whilst I cannot speak for them directly, I must say that we work closely with their field officers and that they would rarely refuse assistance and advice is valued. Your readers should also be aware that some of the major auctions have a veterinary surgeon present or available on a retained basis and they have assisted many inspectors on a number of occasions.

From our experience, many farmers attending auctions and who witness cruelty, because it must be acknowledged that it does occur from time to time, also provide a ready source of information to my inspectors. Yours faithfully, D. C. E. ROBERTS, Chief Inspector of Trading Standards, Shropshire County Council, The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury.

Gamble on the arts

From Mr Patrick Howarth

Sir, After reading in your columns (March 4) of the opening of the splendid, but costly, new arts centre in the City of London I strolled out to look at another cultural complex, which is nearing completion here in Cannes. This complex will also provide Cannes with a new casino.

Not for the first time I found myself wondering why in Britain, when we build a new and inevitably uneconomic centre for the arts, we never seem to equip it with facilities for routine and other pastimes from which the management can derive a profit.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK HOWARTH, Villa Lucior, Rue du Dr. Bertrand Lepine, 06400 Cannes, France.

Times out of joint

From Mr Eric Ambrose

Sir, On Dec 14 1971, under the heading "Forever Ambrose" you noted in The Times Diary my rejection slip from the Editor of Building, received after 19 years. Today I have received a rejection card from the Editor of The Times postmarked March 5, 1982.

an developing, slowly, a paranoid suspicion of editors. ERIC AMBROSE, 100, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill, NW7.

Saturday Review

Cuckolded
by a
woman!

Roy Campbell, the poet, was a drunk, whose melancholy brought on illness. And his brush with the Bloomsbury Group was painful. His wife Mary was seduced by Vita Sackville-West (right). She had to compete for Vita's affections with, among more than a dozen other women, Virginia Woolf. It was a sad, tragic affair which left him miserable, alone and broken. His early homosexuality had backfired

By Peter Alexander

Roy Campbell was quite unimpressed by Harold Nicolson's wealth or family connections. But for his wife Mary, an inveterate snob, it was not the least of the attractions of Nicolson's wife, Vita Sackville-West, to know that she was the daughter of Lord Sackville, that her ancestral home was Knole, the huge Elizabethan house two miles from Long Barn, that she was rich and well-travelled, that she surrounded herself with clever and famous people, and that she managed silver, spaniels, and servants with equal facility.

As Campbell's dislike of England and the Nicolson's grew, Mary's love for both increased. The poet felt this growing gulf between them very keenly. The Nicolson's wealth and generosity seemed a reproach to his own poverty. At the dinners they gave he sat silent and downcast among their friends, all his old shyness returning as they talked about people he did not know and countries he had not visited. "I did not notice that he felt any resentment," wrote Harold Nicolson later. "He just felt out of it."

And as Campbell had turned to beer to rid him of his shyness at Oxford, so now his growing discomfort drove him to drink again. With increasing frequency Mary Campbell would return from the village shop to find the children alone in an empty house, doors and windows flung wide, and Campbell gone up to London to get drunk with John or Heselgrave. It was his drinking that made Mary turn to a sympathetic Vita for comfort. Vita was only too willing to provide it. Sympathy rapidly grew into something more powerful.

Mary was an unusually vivacious and beautiful woman; Vita had been an active lesbian since before her marriage to Harold (who was himself a homosexual). In later years Vita came to bear a strong resemblance to a crusty Anglo-Indian colonel, but in 1927 she seemed to Mary an endlessly fascinating being. The two women met at first in the lane below Long Barn; Campbell's frequent absences made such meetings easier.

The affair quickly became passionate. Vita soon attained her object; Mary could not long resist the turbulent demands of a woman to whom she owed so much gratitude, and whom she so much admired. And Vita, having made the conquest easily, treated it as a thing of little consequence.

Meanwhile Campbell was quite unaware of what was happening. He seems to have been pleased that his wife had found a friend. The problem of earning enough money to keep his family still tormented him; even the small rent the Campbells were paying for their cottage seemed an insupportable burden. He wrote so poetry at this time; all his energies went into earning money through articles and reviews, activity which he despised. He was being reduced to the journalism he had so proudly rejected in South Africa. There seemed no way out of the morass.

It was in mid-September 1927 that Vita offered a partial solution. The Nicolson's owned a small, new house set a little further up the slope from Long Barn. Called "the gardener's cottage", it actually housed their two children and a nanny. Vita now suggested that the Campbells should move into this cottage, rent-free, to stay as long as they liked. To her it must have seemed a masterly combination of beneficence and self-interest. Meeting with Mary would now be not only easy, but inevitable. Campbell accepted the offer with little hesitation; they moved into the cottage on October 1, 1927. He was quite unsuspecting.

Mary was by now deeply in love with Vita. Once her feelings had become fully engaged she plunged passionately into the affair, caring less and less about the secrecy. But Vita, having achieved her desire, began to draw back. Mary had become the pursuer, Vita the pursued.

Early in November Mary told her husband what was happening. The move was less daring and less cruel than it sounds. She knew that in his attitude to sexual aberrations he was very tolerant, and in the past neither had kept any secrets from the



other; he had known of her premarital affairs as she had known of his. He listened in silence, then questioned her as to the extent of the affair; she kept very little back. He was stunned by the news.

It may be that Mary had hoped to give some permanence to her relationship with Vita by forcing Campbell to recognize and acknowledge it. If so, she miscalculated. Bewildered and hurt, Campbell took the train up to London, intending perhaps to drink himself into a stupor. There, in a pub, he met the author and scholar C. S. Lewis, a man he knew only slightly from his Oxford days. To him Campbell, unable to contain himself, poured out the whole story.

Lewis, at first surprised, listened in fascinated silence, and then sat back reflectively. "Fancy being cuckolded by a woman!" he mused. The uncharacteristically tactless remark seared itself into Campbell's mind. He was an intensely proud man; the thought of being the butt of innumerable Bloomsbury jokes was unbearable to him. The carefully

constructed public image of himself as the powerful "Zulu", drinking, fighting, and womanizing, would be turned devastatingly against him.

He flung out of the pub and went back to Weald in a black rage, his sense of betrayal now compounded with jealousy and wounded pride. That night the Campbell children woke crying to an empty house, the curtains flying from open windows, the furniture flung about. Mary, terrified, took refuge with Vita, and (according to Campbell's imaginative account) Dorothy Wellesley, whom Vita had summoned by telephone to Long Barn, set up all night with a shot-gun across her knees. The next day Vita's diary laconically records her belief that Roy was half mad.

But Campbell's rage could not be sustained at such a pitch for long. Mary was surprised by the violence of his outburst, and frightened by it, but she refused to leave Vita. For days Campbell argued, cried, and threatened. He chased Mary with a kitchen-knife. He demanded a divorce. When even this failed to move Mary, he

subsidized. He could hardly thrash Vita, and Harold had returned to his post abroad on October 23. Campbell had no money, no prospects, and now, it seemed, no wife.

But once his anger had cooled he began to realize how much his own behaviour had been responsible for Mary's betrayal. He blamed himself as much as he blamed her. In these circumstances, he vacillated agonizingly; he could not bear to leave her and he could not bear to stay.

According to Harold Nicolson's biographer, James Lees-Milne, Campbell was meanwhile having a brief affair with a bisexual friend of Vita's, Dorothy Warren, who ran the Warren Galleries. Possibly he hoped to arouse Mary's jealousy by such action.

At this point he fell ill: appendicitis was diagnosed, and in February he was taken to hospital for an operation. His illness, and the period of convalescence that followed, gave him an excuse to stay where he was, still hoping that Mary would take pity on him, or that Vita would tire of Mary.

It was during this period, in the bitter winter of 1928, that Laurens van der Post arrived in London from South Africa, and wrote to Campbell. The next day he received a reply:

My dear Laurens,
1. Go to Charing Cross Station at once.
2. Buy a ticket for Sevenoaks (2/5 single or 5/- return).
3. Get in the train for Sevenoaks (the porter will do it all for you if you tell him you're a stranger. He'll show you the right train — give him a sixpence).
4. Get out at Sevenoaks station.
5. When you get out at Sevenoaks you'll see plenty of taxis. Get in one and tell him to drive to Weald Village.
6. When you get to Weald Village ask at the Post Office, the butcher's, the baker's, or any of the shops, and they will tell you where I live. Weald is only a tiny village, everybody knows my house there...

Campbell was pathetically pleased to see Van der Post. Mary took advantage of his stay to disappear for three weeks, Vita being away at the same time. Van der Post was horrified at the squalor in which Campbell was living, scarcely stirring from his bed, and at his emaciation. He wrote later:

"I could hardly believe that the man who had walked the beach in the dark, comforting a hurt little girl in his arms and reciting a great poem with the voice of a prophet, and this thin, shivering hulk of a human being in torn and tattered clothes, could be one and the same person."

Van der Post could hardly believe that Campbell would recover. Though Campbell did not confide in him, he sensed that this dreadful change had something to do with Mary. Campbell was drinking heavily and continuously, mostly gin and cider because of their cheapness, and he spent his days half-dressed in his bed, reading back numbers of the German magazine *Der Querschnitt*. There were very few blankets in the house, and Van der Post found it difficult to sleep because of the cold. Several times he woke to find that Campbell had covered him during the night with his own blanket, and he was astonished that even in this extremity of misery Campbell did not forget his duty to a guest.

It was days before Van der Post was able to persuade Campbell to accompany him to London to meet another South African, the journalist and painter Enslin du Plessis. Although it was a bitterly cold day, Campbell wore neither overcoat nor tie, but clasped a thin jacket over his grey flannel trousers, so torn that the skin of his buttocks was visible; he was unwashed and unshaven. They met Du Plessis in Fleet Street, and went to Grooms', an old coffee-house, for a meal.

Mary's return brought Campbell no relief. He lingered at Long Barn for a time, as hope faded. At last, in April 1928, he gave up. Unable to endure any longer the daily sight of Vita and Mary together, he sadly packed a small bag and took the train to London. He did not return; he had determined to leave England. To go back to South Africa was inconceivable. Instead he crossed the Channel and made his way to Martigues in Provence, where he and Mary had had such a pleasant holiday the previous summer. In that beautiful sunny village, so full of memories of past happiness, he hoped to find consolation. He was on the run again.

But though he recovered quickly and completely, there is ample evidence that his marriage did not. Mary was still deeply in love with Vita, to whom she wrote almost daily; hastily pencilled letters on odd scraps of paper, posted secretly when Campbell was out of the house. Having settled Campbell in the Rue St. Mitre, she returned briefly to England to see Vita for ten days in June, and again in November 1928. Each time Campbell must have wondered whether she would return. By December she was once again despairing of living with him, and talking of separating from him and living alone. It was only gradually that they learned once again to live together as man and wife.

This is an extract from Peter Alexander's *Roy Campbell: A Critical Biography*, which is published on March 18 by the Oxford University Press, price £12.50.

He begged her to return, but she was still in love with Vita



● Campbell arrived in Provence lonely and despairing. His self-confidence shattered. He knew the strength of Vita's hold on Mary; she offered her love, comfort, support, and wealth, and she had the sort of social position which so impressed Mary.

He began writing a stream of desperate, pathetic letters to Mary, begging her to join him. He could not live without her, he wrote; more importantly, he could not write without her; he would give up drinking, he would do anything to make her happy, she would see how he had changed. And to Campbell's delight, the impossible happened. Mary agreed to return to him. The poet saw this as the surest evidence of her continued love for him. In fact, however, there is clear evidence that she was still deeply in love with Vita. Why did she return to her husband?

The answer seems to be that she was urged to do so by Vita, to whom she had become an embarrassment. Vita's fluid affections had begun ebbing quite early in the relationship. Moreover, she was at the same time carrying on no fewer than five other, separate affairs, one of them with Virginia Woolf. Virginia, engaged in writing *Orlando*, was a frequent visitor to Long Barn; she knew about Vita's affair with Mary, and was intensely jealous. She proved a rival Mary could not hope to match.

Vita's increasing coldness, combined with Campbell's humble and desolate letters, persuaded Mary to return to him. Vita was relieved. Mary arrived in Martigues with their two daughters on 12 May 1928, to find Campbell apparently very ill and overjoyed to have her back. They found a cheap little house at 3 Rue St. Mitre in Martigues, and with Mary to look after him Campbell quickly regained his health.

But though he recovered quickly and completely, there is ample evidence that his marriage did not. Mary was still deeply in love with Vita, to whom she wrote almost daily; hastily pencilled letters on odd scraps of paper, posted secretly when Campbell was out of the house. Having settled Campbell in the Rue St. Mitre, she returned briefly to England to see Vita for ten days in June, and again in November 1928. Each time Campbell must have wondered whether she would return. By December she was once again despairing of living with him, and talking of separating from him and living alone. It was only gradually that they learned once again to live together as man and wife.

Following the fox



In the country/Susan Hill

I was working at my desk one Saturday morning in January when I heard the sound of the hunting horn very nearby; it had an extraordinary effect on me, stirring, exciting, so that I jumped up and ran outside, anxious to find out where they were.

When I was a child, and a teenager, I rode a lot and hunted occasionally, though I was never very intrepid, and always followed along fairly far to the back, on a fat, sedate old pony, and went round all the gates and high hedges. But I enjoyed it, the whole colourful, lively event, the meet outside an inn or manor house, the way the very fresh horses were so giddy and restless, the trays of sandwiches and drinks, the admiring crowd, the spurt of fear and pleasure in your stomach as the huntmen moved off and then the chase over fields and getting cold and covered in mud and coming home aching and filthy, to bath and rest.

I was not a bloodthirsty child — indeed, rather the contrary — but nevertheless I took the whole business of hunting calmly, for granted, and never thought about the ethics of it. Man has always hunted, for food or sport or both, some primitive instinct is still aroused by the chase. We do have to control foxes and I doubt if there are any more humane methods, though actually hunting is not particularly efficient. I scarcely remember a kill in my youth, and often we did not even find.

When I got outside into the garden of Moon Cottage, I heard the horn again, braying through the clear air, and then I saw them, streaming down the Buttercup field, immediately below me, the whole marvellous array of them, men in pink, women in black, and the great strong horses, and the fox yelping bounds and, at the back, the little Thelwell girls with pigtailed bouncing up and down, being steered clear of

a particularly nasty ditch. They went over the fences and on up the Rise and for sixpence I could have gone with them, I wanted to have a horse again and fly and fly...

There is a good story in the village about the time the hunt ended up in the garden of Mrs. Miggs, aged ninety-four. Mrs. Miggs was in one of the oldest, low-lying cottages down Fen Lane, a narrow, thick-walled house with minute windows entirely obscured by indoor geraniums, gangly and overgrown. She has a sort of lightless inner parlour where she sits all day with her canary and her wireless which, because she is deaf, she has turned up very loud. On this particular day, she was happily installed, listening to the Jimmy Young Show, when the fox, followed close by the whole pack of hounds, broke through the hedge into her kitchen garden while the rest of the hunt milled about in the lane

outside steaming and panting and horses pressed their great hind-quarters against the door and windows of the cottage. There was a tremendous racket, and the fox was finished off. It brought out everyone else in the lane but Mrs. Miggs sat on, quite oblivious to all of it, doing

her crochet and listening to the music.

The foxes in Barley have been getting more and more open-faced in their boldness this past winter. One Sunday morning, one went up the track into the stable-yard behind the Grange where Mrs. Lavender keeps her hens

running free and killed six right off, while everyone was singing "Ye Holy Angels Bright" at morning service a few yards away. The following Sunday he went back at precisely the same time for the rest.

Mrs. Lavender hunts twice weekly in winter and who could blame her for feeling bloodthirsty then, yet her heart being also soft at the core, when she saw an injured fox sitting in the middle of the orchard beyond her window her distress was great and she went all over the village to find a man with a gun who would come at once and put the poor creature down.

War by trap was waged after a very tame, very pet Muscovy duck was taken in Ellen's beautifully tended garden near the post box, and she caught seven foxes within a few weeks, but there were plenty more where they came from, in Foxley Spinney and Spoke Woods, and all the little copses around

and about between Barley and the Fen, and the next week, the village school chickens were massacred and left lying all over the run headless, to the agony of the child in charge of locking them away at the time. I can forgive them for taking hens for food, but not for the fun of slaughter, and yet I wonder if it is only a desire to keep down the fox population which makes one respond, as I did, to the sound of the tally-ho?

When it has snowed, we see the fox tracks every morning, they run up our garden from the low wall, and around the hen run and then across the lane into the field opposite. He makes a regular, routine check, so that if we forget once to shut the door of the henhouse, he will pounce. On winter nights, too, we hear the eerie shrieks of the vixen down in the spinney below Sheep Hill, and the barks of the dog foxes fighting over her, they are sounds to chill the blood,

to make you pull the curtains together more tightly and throw another log on the fire.

Yet the fox would never harm a human, and when seen at close quarters he is no more alarming than a dog — I am always taken aback each time by how much smaller and slighter he is in reality than in my mind.

I shall never trust him nor encourage him to come near, but the countryside would be the poorer without him, for in the fox we have a villain and a scapegoat, something to remind us of the essential bloodiness of nature. In this quiet countryside, he is the nearest we get to all those ravaging wolves and brute bears of the wild, and of legend.

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These articles are edited extracts from *The Magic Apple Tree* by Susan Hill, to be published by Hamish Hamilton on April 23.

Next week: Mrs Miggs in the springtime

A comedy hit by Eric Idle, with
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-THE ASSASSIN-

[illegible]

New York/John Heilpern

A many gendered thing

The release of a cluster of Hollywood films about homosexuality, in these Moral Majority days, is surprising. The box-office success in America of two such films — the male homosexual *Making Love* and the lesbian *Personal Best* — is, I think, disturbing. But when in Blake Edwards' forthcoming *Victor, Victoria*, Robert Preston is seen in bed with another man in the opening shot, and James Garner falls in love with a man who, in fact, is a female transvestite — and, indeed, when this same female transvestite is a drag queen, played by Julie Andrews, all of a sudden, we are faced with a new, innocent person — then we may safely conclude that the love that dare not speak its name has finally emerged from the Hollywood closet. But more of the *Pirandellian Victor*, *Victoria* anon.

At stake in these films, described as The New Realism in portraying homosexuals, is an explosive issue. When it comes to the intensely persuasive medium of the cinema, homosexuals are portrayed in a way that Hollywood portrays them will be how they are actually perceived by the majority. In the past, almost all Hollywood films have portrayed homosexuals as caricatures and joke-figures, mostly villains or fools, pathological, predatory, and — deserved fate, the films imply — suicidal. The historic breakthrough of such films as *Making Love* is it is claimed, that for the first time Hollywood is portraying homosexuals as

normal, sane, unremarkable people. "To a lot of people in Middle America," says the screenwriter of *Making Love*, "the fact that a gay person can be a doctor or a lawyer will be a major revelation."

In short, and in the name of truth, we are led hopefully to believe that the popular film images of effeminate stereotypes (and "manly" females), of homosexuals as psychopaths, freaks and misfits, are at an end.

While this is certainly true of *Making Love*, the truth is that we are offered, alas, something that approaches the first homosexual movie, *Doris* film. In spite of all the claims made by its producers, *Making Love* is not a serious film about homosexuality — in fact, the word homosexuality is never actually mentioned. It is a soap opera, directed by a master of soap operas, Arthur Hiller, who 12 years ago brought us *Love Story*.

The film concerns the break-up of an excessively happy marriage between an excessively sweet doctor and an excessively sweet television executive who read Rupert Brooke and make love before log fires — the sort of thing that would make any real couple throw up. While all this is done, the film is a conventional soap opera, after eight years of marriage, the doctor has suddenly acquired a faraway look in his eye, particularly when young men in leather studs rev by on motorcycles. In the conventional soap opera, *The Other Woman*



Love that dare not speak its name: Julie Andrews, all sweet innocence, with cigar...

adds: "Just watching women athletes check their sweat socks knocks me out." And that, I think, is worrying. Against Towne's better instincts, he has made a voyeuristic film of a peculiar kind. Though some American critics see within *Personal Best* images of "beauty and innocence", a celebration of women's bodies, and a film about normal life, such praise beats me. *Personal Best* is a teenage magazine film which illustrates Towne's fondness for women's sweat-socks, running shoes, calves, thighs,

and, in close-up after close-up, crutches. It would be foolish to deny that women's athletics today are without sex appeal, but if that is all Towne gets from them, he is missing a great deal. In the same way that *Personal Best* lacks real understanding about the pursuit of excellence in athletics — compare its track sequences to *Chariots of Fire* — so the story of the lesbian love affair is just as surface and adolescent. It is also Hemingway only "finds herself", her true, acceptable,

adult self, when she has abandoned her lesbian lover for the love of a man. The implied message is clear: it's OK to be a lesbian if it's a passing phase. Which brings me all too briefly to the glorious *Victor, Victoria* starring the transvestite Julie Andrews as a drag queen. Here I will not be accused of enjoying the camp stereotypes I am supposed to be against. True, but compared to *The New Realism of Personal Best* and *Making Love*, give me Blake Edwards' say version of Inspector Clouseau any day.

Theatre/Irving Wardle

Reptilian charm

The Little Foxes

Victoria Palace

At £25 for a stalls seat, I would not go so far as to say that you get your money's worth from this revival of Lillian Hellman's study of naked greed, but at least you get a good play and good cast thrown in with Elizabeth Taylor's first appearance on the British stage since her wordless apparition as Helen of Troy during the Burton era.

"Melodramatic" is the usual word hurled at *The Little Foxes* to punish it for its 1939 success on Broadway. To which you can only say that the bulk of literature from the American South earns the same dismissal. Miss Hellman's family portrait of the Hubbards — Southern Reconstruction businessmen who have built their mansions out of black bones — is indeed a heavy plotted piece, the two brothers and their aptly named sister Regina each plotting to outsmart the others in a deal with industrial Chicago. But the events are carried with a sense of place and time as pervasive as the flooding bayous, and the characters are beautifully drawn both as individuals and as members of a pecking order.

One virtue of Austin Pendleton's production is that it pays them full respect instead of parading them as degenerate monsters. They can show pretty manners in company; they have endear-

ing foibles; they even have a sense of fun. It thus hurts all the more when brother Oscar (Nicholas Coster) whips his victimized wife across the face before gallantly adjusting her wrap; or when Miss Taylor, for levelling quite honestly with her sick husband, placidly folds her hands on her lap when he has a stroke and lets him crawl off unaided to die upstairs. Miss Taylor, changing tight-laced costumes as often as you could wish, looks in a tip-top shape; and has a strong line in reptilian Southern charm. Her technique is to take you through the character in the course of a single speech. "You will have to tell me everything you thought; someday", she remarks to her husband (J. D. Cannon), starting with a brilliant smile and "you'll" cadences, modulating through irony, and finally facing out front to show us a palef mask on the last word.

She has a fine partner in Robert Lansing, a craggy quick-witted actor in the Jason Robartes mould, who supplies a subtle brother as well as a main adversary. At the end of each battle the two of them collapse in giggles, as if still playing a game that has been going on since childhood. Other good performances come from Seda Thompson as the luckless Birdie and William Ymans as the nastiest of all the chips off the old block. Howard Bay's set is needlessly ugly, and lacking in the necessary depth for the action-packed drama; they have endear-

Television/Dennis Hackett

Sustainable spoof

Quita a lot of television drama is stretched beyond its content to last night's BBC2 Playhouse production, *Pocketful of Dreams*, beautifully tailored to a mere 35 minutes.

At this length it was an entirely sustainable spoof with a special humour for film and television people who might have been viewing, though the "in" gags were not so obvious that they precluded enjoyment by those at a distance from the business.

Charlie and Denny are bank robbers with a straight-forward method and a note over the counter. By chance they see a film crew enacting a bank robbery by a similar method and their professional disdain

at the amateurism of it all is succeeded by a bright idea: why not make a television film company themselves, but with purely felonious intent.

A banker is found, convinced, and small companies are set up to impress a bank. Gang members are recruited and trained by a professional film-maker in techniques and even appropriate dress, the latter being not too difficult for villains to adapt to. The bank agrees to the shooting and all seems to be going well.

The snag is that by this time the gang has largely become hoodlums, on film making to the point where Charlie finds it difficult to get them to concentrate on the more serious business of robbery and, at the bank, it is this dichotomy of interests

that causes the gang to be rumbled and arrested.

It was a good bit of fun and lasted the distance. It was written by Jim Hill, who has hitherto established a track record as a director of the comic. The director on this occasion, a debut at the age of 22, was Stuart Urban and the producer, Terry Coles.

Michael Elphick, who has several times demonstrated his capacity to make villainy attractive, enjoyed himself as Charlie; Philip Jackson, as his crony Denny. They were supported by a cast who had obviously seen this kind of filming before but did not overplay it and there was a particularly good performance from Wolfe Morris as the banker.

Radio/David Wade

A novel approach to listening

It goes without saying — but it is often said — that a book adapted for radio is not the same as — inevitably less than — the original. Most novels are mostly narrative, or at least prose; most adaptations are mostly dialogue. We hear less of the author's voice; tones give way to inflections. And because novels tend to be long and radio comparatively short, every adaptation is to some degree a synopsis.

But there are things which, if the job of transfer is competently done, are not lost: the story remains, and with it the author's shape and emphasis. The characters remain and indeed grow, for now almost everything must be conveyed through them; actors and director bring them to us, adding a further layer of interpretation, interposing if you like a further

screen, yet it is also this which can bring back to the whole enterprise some of the tones and subtleties which the text has lost.

What the listener ends up with can be, and of the evidence of recent Radio 4 Sunday serial adaptations, often is a lively, moving work in its own right. Certainly this goes for Betty Davies's version and Jane Morgan's production of *Bleak House* now approaching the sixth of its eight episodes.

As so often happens when something is done well, the sounds right, and that apparently is all there is to be said. Thus with this production it seems perfectly in order that the strands of such a labyrinthine story should be so clear and that the immense number of characters should be so easy to recognise and so

very much alive in the mind. Not forgetting Dickens, who achieved this in the first place, its projection into sound speaks at once the most skilful selection of material, accomplished direction and first-class casting.

I have heard few productions in which it has been less of a problem to pick out who is who. No doubt certain touches of the grotesque in the original characterization help this along, but the actors' interpretations are what count: Brenda Blethyn's Esther Summerson, for example, is outstanding, for this is a role in which a young lady can easily sound a bit of a ninny — Miss Blethyn is both appealing and firm, qualities which in their way also invest Michael Bryant's Jarndyce. Robert Lang is formidably disquieting as Mr Tulkens-

horn, Angela Pleasence ruthless and ruthless as Charity. Patrick Troughton's Grandfather Smallweed the embodiment of malice and greed... But I fear the only justice to this fine cast would be to mention each and everyone in favourable terms from end to end.

Of course, a production as engaged as summer tutor to the Kirkwoods, an Anglo-Irish family at Woodbrook, their estate in far-off Cornwall. He records how gradually the place and the people and notably how Phoebe, his employers' 12-year-old daughter, all began to enchant him.

Summer followed summer and back he went, almost one of the family, hard put to it not to address Major Kirkwood as "Dad". The parents watched this spell-bound relationship between their daughter and a young man six years her senior with a mixture of alarm and hope. They tried reluctantly to cool it and they succeeded. Then in 1944, with Phoebe now a woman, it welled up again, fresh and passionate. Alas, within the year she had succumbed to some grave malady and was dead. Amazingly, a documentary technique, apparently quite at odds with the intense poignancy of such a love story, in fact did much to sharpen it. Altogether a beautiful programme, exquisitely made by Maurice Leitch.

Chess/Harry Golombek

Masterly youngsters

How do you popularize chess and how do you ensure a constant flow in the stream of chess from beginners to club player, then to national player, to master-player and finally to grandmaster? There is one infallible way for that: catch 'em young.

Chess is immensely a game for the young, that is, for the young, there used to be two mistaken prejudices against the game among chessplayers. One was that it was a slow game fit only for greybeards and the other was that it tended to distract children from their studies and to slow up their academic progress.

The truth is the reverse. Just look at the number of children who play and excel at the game nowadays. As for the second prejudice, there is no better training for the mind than chess which teaches us how to concentrate and think logically.

This year's Arc Young Masters' chess contest, sponsored by the Amey Roadstone Corporation, was held at Westergate from February 26-28. It was a pronounced success, containing one grandmaster and 11 international masters, together with masses of children whose enthusiasm was a delight to watch. There were 68 players in the principal event, the Arc Young Masters' tournament, in which players of all ages competed.

Five other tournaments limited to certain ages, the under-21, under-16, under-14, under-12 and under-10. Six rounds were played in three days and there was a close struggle for the top prizes (1st £500, 2nd £250, 3rd £200, 4th £150, 5th £100, 6th £50). In the end, the grandmaster, Johnathan Speelman, R. Britton and A. Martin all received £500 with a score of 5 points. Two international masters, William Hartston and James Plaskett, shared the next place with R. Blackwell, N. Dickinson, S. Finlayson, P. Large and P. Wells with 4½ each.

The British champion, international master Paul Littlewood, and two more international masters, Michael Easman and Nigel Povah, along with K. Arkell and J. Richardson, had 4. Among the 3½s were the British Lady champion, Sheila Jackson, the former European Junior champion, international master Shaun Taulbut and two further international masters, Robert Bellin and Nigel Davies.

The under-16 world champion, Stuart Conquest, scored 3 and celebrated his 15th birthday the day following the tournament.

Another interesting entry was that of the New Zealand team, who scored 3½ points and succeeded in losing the following miniature game in the last round. White: C. Laird Black: S. G. Finlayson Q.P. Dutch Defence

White is playing the opening a little too simply. Better seems 5.Nx3, or he might try the gambit 5.P-B3.

An indifferent move; better was 8.N-N3.

He is intending to get castled as soon as possible but overlooks the tactical possibilities for Black in the early stages of the game. Change of his Q-B1 to Q-B3, with B-Q3 to follow.

This, and the following move, waste valuable time. He should have tried 10.P-KN3 with B-N2 to follow.

Another mistake; correct was 12.B-R4.

(Position after 13.0-0-0)

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The Times Cook

Italian sweetener

It is time to confess that until now I have been a little bit of a meringue snob. While the syrup is boiling, whip the egg whites to a stiff meringue. Whisking hard and fast, gradually add the hot syrup. Continue whisking until the meringue is cold.

To make meringue nests: brush one or more baking sheets with melted butter, and when it has set, dust with flour. Alternatively, line the sheets with baking parchment. Mark six circles about 9 cm (3½ in) diameter on the prepared sheets.

Put a large fabric piping bag with a plain nozzle of about 1 cm (½ in) diameter. Fill the bag with meringue and pipe circular bases, filling in the outlines from the centre outwards. Then pipe the meringue up the top of the other, on the edge of each base to form the walls of the nests.

Bake the meringues at the bottom of a preheated very cool oven (110°C/225°F, gas mark 1½) for about three hours. Not all oven thermostats work accurately so check the meringues from time to time. If they are beginning to colour, reduce the heat.

To make meringue layers: Mark prepared baking sheets with two large circles of about 23 cm (9 in) diameter. Pipe a single layer of meringue, filling in the circle from the centre outwards. Alternatively, divide the meringue between the two outlines and spread it in an even layer to fill the circles. Bake layers at the same temperatures as nests.

Baked meringues can be stored for several weeks in an airtight container or frozen for up to three months.

Use meringue layers as building blocks for frivolous desserts with fruit and cream.

Layers of nut meringue can be combined plain layers, or stacked with plain or flavoured cream.

Nut meringue Makes two large layers 225g (8 oz) sugar, granulated or caster 150ml (¼ pint) water 4 egg whites

To obtain the maximum volume of meringue from the ingredients use a balloon whisk with a traditional copper bowl (or any other wide shallow bowl), or use an electric beater with a narrower, deep bowl. Make sure that both bowl and beater are spotlessly clean and dry, and that the egg whites are at room temperature.

Put the sugar in a small pan with the water and heat the mixture gently until the sugar has dissolved completely. Now bring the sugar to the boil and cook it, without stirring, until the syrup reaches the hard ball stage. This will register 248°F on a sugar thermometer but can be checked without one. Drop half a teaspoon of syrup into very cold water then roll it into a ball with your fingers. If the cold plunge firms the syrup enough to roll it into a tough lump, it has reached the hard

ball stage. While the syrup is boiling, whip the egg whites to a stiff meringue. Whisking hard and fast, gradually add the hot syrup. Continue whisking until the meringue is cold.

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Shoparound with Beryl Downing

What's your ideal?

A trade descriptions inspector would have a field day in London this week. At one end of town is a covered market of mass production masquerading as "ideal". A traffic jam or two away is a display of individually designed furniture calling itself Multiples. In the interests of accuracy they should swap titles.

Ideal, I have been led to believe by the Concise Oxford, means "perfect, supremely excellent; embodying an idea; visionary". Multiples signifies "many and various".

Yet the Ideal Home exhibition, which should be a showcase of commercial enterprise, is about as visionary as a blinkered donkey and Multiples, which actually does "embody an idea", shows creative design that could never be multiplied to production line quantities without losing the

quality that makes it worth having — hand craftsmanship. Anyone who remembers the Ideal Home exhibitions of many years ago will regret its descent to nothing more than a series of advertisements in the round. Once, the houses were furnished by whichever of the designer's favourite manufacturers were willing to lend products. Now they are mostly kitted out by whichever company can afford to pay a substantial sum to the builder — £5,000 for the privilege of showing a range of cupboards in one house was quoted.

The result is that you see whatever the manufacturer wants to sell to a mass audience, rather than the creative talent of an interior designer given full rein, and the only success this year is achieved by Sue Rowlands in the Heritage house, whose determined use of strong colour and co-ordinated pattern is fresh and cheerful.

So, if not design trends, what else? A display of "fanciest" installations for domestic baths if you are looking for new ways of relaxing and, upstairs in the health and beauty section, the opportunity to try out a trampolining, have your legs waxed by Carmen or your hair coloured by Elezara — both free. Make appointments on the stand. The exhibition is at Earls Court until April 3.

I liked the Clothworks stand — lots of boldly patterned cotton at around £12.50 to £25.50 which can be taken to simple slot-together frames (£4 to £5.75) and then padded from the back with kapok to give a three-dimensional look — best in bright primary colours for children's rooms.

And I was glad to see Textclean back at the show. It is one of those "miraculous" carpet and upholstery cleaners that I find actually does work at home as well as in the hands of the demonstrator. You buy a packet of crystals for £1.50 and make up your own solution by dissolving in warm water. Those who can't get to the exhibition can obtain Textclean by post (plus 25p p&p).

from Arlington Food and Arts (Birmingham) Unit 1, 76 Cate Street, N. Birmingham 7. Telephone 05245 2250.

To find the clear, fresh pastels of Spring though, you will do better to visit the Multiples exhibition at the Warwick Arts Trust, 33 Warwick Square, SW1 until March 28. There, the main display is of delightful pistachio green and almond blossom pink upholstery with tables in pale, biscuit coloured sycamore, ash and beech, complemented by superb kinetic screens by artist Adam Craig.

These are 10ft x 8ft hangings of mobile strips of perspex or aluminium, each decorated with simple strips of colour overlaid to create complicated patterns of up to 120 different shades. The prototypes cost just over £1,000 and would be marvellous in public buildings, but can also be reduced to about 4ft square for domestic surroundings.

The other work shown is by 20 craftsmen who have been encour-

aged by the organiser Ann Hartree to think in terms of multiple production. She already shows their furniture, glass, pottery and textiles at her Prescott Gallery, Cropredy, near Banbury, and she is convinced that to work in small batches at about one third of the costs of one-off commissions is the small workshop's survival kit of the future.

"Because there is more than one of a hand-made piece, it doesn't mean the quality is less", she says. "Young craftsmen have to realise that they are not designers immediately they come out of college — even Makepeace spent a lot of time and money establishing his name — and in times of recession they need an alternative source of regular income."

"At the moment many subsidise their workshops by teaching but as 10,000 part-time teaching jobs in the arts will be axed in the next three years, they must develop further than the commissioned one-off."

Child's chair in cleft chestnut by Richard la Trobe Bateman, £175 in the Multiples exhibition at the Warwick Arts Trust, 33 Warwick Square, SW1.

Low armchair by Floris van den Broeke, upholstered in pastel worsted will by Morgan and Oates, £565.80 in the Multiples exhibition.

To the designer, batch production offers several advantages. Practically, he spends less time ordering and collecting raw materials and his best ideas gain a wider audience. "A really good idea deserves to be developed and once you have made a one-off you have a workable prototype", says ex-Parnham student Nick Sherwood, who has a handsome sycamore and elm table in the show.

Aesthetically, you are nobody's lackey. "When you are producing on a small scale you can do what you want without being influenced by stores who say nobody will buy it", says Floris van den Broeke, who is showing furniture upholstered in the delicate pastel worsteds woven by Morgan & Oates.

But marketing will always be a problem for all craftsmen. If their prices are too low they are associated disparagingly with corn doliors. If they sell through shops the mark-up, now well over 100%, makes their work prohibitive.

Ann Hartree is doing her best

Screen-printed down in cheerful primary colours is available stitched and padded at £12.50 with a slot-together frame, £4, or ready framed at £18 or as plain fabric to pad at home, £10. Several designs available from Clothworks. The Market, Covent Garden, London WC2 and 5, Goswell Street, Bath. Also at the Ideal Home exhibition.



To find the right audience for them by showing their work at her gallery open Wednesdays to Sundays 10 am to 5 pm (the first exhibition will be from April 11 to May 2) and there's a licensed buttery so it's a tempting day out. She will also show to the furniture trade at Earls Court May 16-17, and at the Fine Art Society, Great King Street, Edinburgh, June 26 to August 10.

"Such a lot of craft is too elitist. I want to aim at the people who were switched on by Habitat ten years ago. Where are they now and what are they buying?" I rather suspect they are buying Italian Habitat was to furniture what the modern model girl is to fashion — smart, not always pretty, but with a fashionable look that nevertheless seemed accessible.

That is what the Italians are producing today, at somewhat higher prices. If only English craftsmen could find an equally effective corporate identity. English furniture buyers might have more confidence in going native.

Truffles ahead

If music were the food of love we'd all be a good deal thinner. I speak bitterly as one in the throes of a non-consuming passion — yet another diet — and I will not easily forget the rarely recorded sound of contented subscribers as they munched through the fresh cream truffles my conscience obliged me to cast before them.

The chocolates had been sent round by Barkers of Kensington a golden carton of dark delights made by a young man in Tunbridge Wells called Howard, who learnt to be a confectioner in Switzerland and now delivers each week to Barkers and Army & Navy, Victoria.

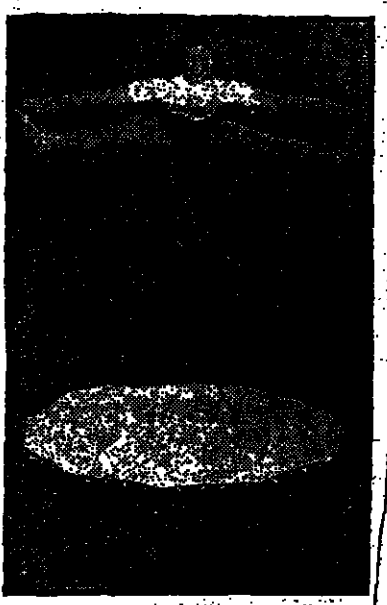
There are eight flavours of Howard's hand-made cream truffles: milk, vanilla, caramel and coffee, rum, Grand Marnier, whisky and cognac. Presentation boxes are £4.95 lb, £8.50 2lb, cartons of 100x £2.95, or pick your own selection at 95p 4lb.

They are sold from refrigerated cases in the stores and will keep for four weeks once you get them home.

Talking about food, a touring exhibition called The Upstairs Downstairs of a Dinner Party offers an instructive and entertaining hour and a half packed with information on choosing wines, arranging the flowers and planning the menu.

It is sponsored by 24 manufacturers of foods, drinks and kitchen appliances and the recipes demonstrated will be asparagus mousse, seafood delicie, steak and siltion and a meringue gateau.

There will be morning, afternoon and evening shows in Esher on March 24 and 25; Bath March 30, 31 and April 1; Chester April 14 and 15; Coventry April 21 and 22; Beaconsfield April 28 and 29. Tickets are £1.50 each, or £1.25 for groups of ten or more. Some sessions are already sold out, but several are still available — enquiries to Mrs Carol Macartney, Dinner Party Secretariat, 25 Park Road, London NW1 6XN. Telephone 01-723 0725.



This new Swedish home-trampoline for keep-fit enthusiasts is demonstrated at the Ideal Home. In two sizes, 40in diameter £49.50 and 60in £79.50, from Roncaste Ltd, 42 Earls Court, WC2.

A helping touch for the blind

A fighting forward containing the insularity of some charities for the blind introduces the 1982 edition of *In Touch*, the BBC's handbook of aids and services for the blind and partially sighted.

St. Dunstan's, whose 28m assets make it the richest of these charities, comes under attack for being "surprisingly reluctant to contribute to projects which help the blind in general", although last year there remained only 998 war-blinded men and women living in Britain.

People imagine that the blind are particularly well served in this country but in fact, because of the lack of specialist social workers, very little more information is automatically available to a newly blind person today than when we produced our first edition nine years ago," co-author Margaret Ford told me.

"St. Dunstan's have helped in the past with the welfare of blind people generally — they contributed, for instance, to the Talking Book Service, but this unfortunately has less than 4,000 titles to serve 54,000 blind people. It is now technically possible to record full-length novels on only two C90 cassettes for use on a new type of recording machine, but this would cost millions. The money is there — £56 million between the four major charities — if only they would make it available for the benefit of all blind people."

Many of the difficulties faced by people who are newly regis-

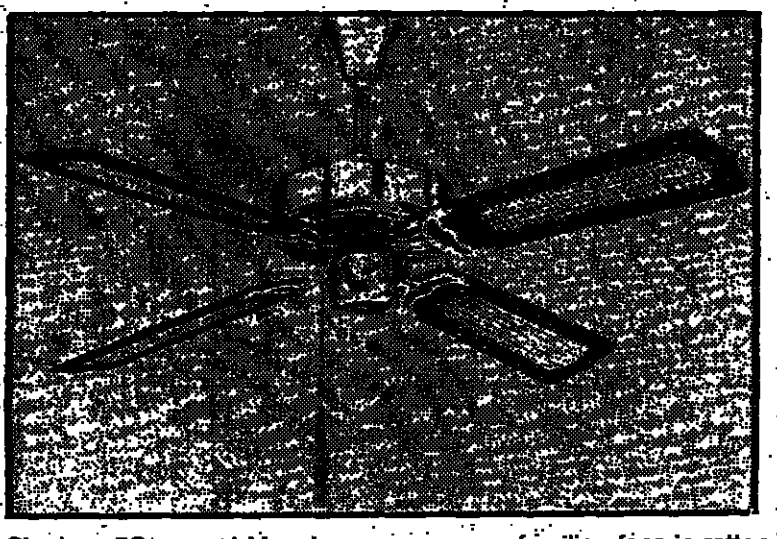
tered as blind, however, involve understanding and practical help rather than vast sums of money, and solutions to everyday problems are exactly what Margaret Ford and Thelma Heshel offer in their handbook.

It includes advice on allowances and employment, kitchen layout, safety, choppers and slicers, leisure pursuits, travel and education. It also suggests ways of detecting visual handicap in small children and gives guidance on looking after the largest group of sufferers, the elderly.

Many old people — and the number of those over 85 is expected to increase from 464,000 in 1980 to 692,000 in 1995 — do not become registered as blind and are not aware of the services available — for instance that all those registered are eligible for a radio set on free permanent loan from the British Wireless for the Blind Fund.

The book is available from BBC Publications, PO Box 234, London SE1 2ST for £2.95 including postage. Its thoroughness will be appreciated by the newly blind who are bewildered by such apparently simple acts as making a cup of tea and its practical, down-to-earth attitudes will be invaluable to those who want to help but don't know how.

It is hoped that the authors, "that sighted readers will receive the message that the real need of the blind is not a sheltered seat in a stented garden but the opportunity to take their place in the busy busy of everyday life."



Shades of Somerset Maugham — a range of ceiling fans in rattan and wood launched in London this week by Christopher Wray.

They circulate a gentle breeze in summer and some have a reverse switch to push down warm air in winter. The Old Style, above, has a polished brass finish, £175, the Casablanca comes in polished brass, antique brass or chrome from £125. Both can be fitted with a selection of light pendants. From Christopher Wray branches at 600 Kings Road, SW6 and in Bristol and Leeds.

Right: Do not Pooh-pooh this less-than-lovely piece of plastic. It commemorates this year's centenary of A. A. Milne's birth and it may one day end up in a museum of memorabilia. It costs £85 (£5 p&p) from the Telephone Box, 339 Fulham Road, SW10. Mickey Mouse and Snoopy are also available — just be thankful no one has yet thought of similarly beatifying Buzby.

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Less hairy today

Life in at least one Scottish public school is, I am happy to learn, less hairy than it used to be. They have replaced their old-fashioned iron bedsteads with modern units — and now they don't know what to do with the old horsehair mattresses.

Mr K. J. Houston, housemaster of Rogerson East House, Merchiston Castle School, Colinton, Edinburgh, saw my recent comments about amateur upholsterers throwing away "valuable horsehair".

At the moment a local d-i-y enthusiast asks for one mattress every year or so, but that rate of progress does not suit Mr Houston, whose school motto is Ready as Ready. "Would anyone who is planning to corner the market in sofa stuffing like to make him an offer?"



The latest hair styling tongs can be taken anywhere in the world without the bother of remembering a suitable adaptor plug. They work on butane gas, which comes in refill cylinders at 99p each — about two months' supply. Simply fill the tank in the handle, switch on and the tongs heat within seconds, reaching optimum temperature in five minutes. Called the Braun Independent, the tongs cost £10.95, the styling wand £11.95, each with a mini refill to last one month. Both from major branches of Boots and at Harrods.

Gardening/Roy Hay Rake's progress

dressing of lime now and repeat the dose once or twice at 10-day intervals.

All lawns will respond well this year to feeding with high nitrogen lawn fertilizer, or "lawn conditioner", as some firms prefer to call their product. I like to apply the first dose about now and a second application in about four weeks. Scattering a fertilizer on a lawn by hand, be it a powder or in granular form, can be a bit hit and miss. It probably does not matter very much if we put on a slight overdose here and there, especially if we water the fertilizer into the turf. This I would always do unless the weather is

showery and the rain will wash it off the grass.

If you have a fairly large area of lawn to treat with fertilizer it would be worth while investing in a fertilizer spreader. These machines are also useful for spreading fertilizer on the vegetable garden and are capable of being adjusted to apply the various fertilizers quite accurately for a given rate of application.

David Hessayon, who has produced several excellent gardening books, has now published *The Lawn Expert* which he modestly claims is an enlarged edition of the world's best selling book on lawn care. It costs £1.95 and is surprisingly good value. Lavishly illustrated in colour throughout, it covers every aspect of lawn making and subsequent lawn care and maintenance.

There have been many different moss killers including those with a mercurous content but this, according to EEC regulations, must not now be sold as a cure for moss — I have not been able to find out why, because mercurous compounds may still be advised for the control of various turf diseases and the rate of application is far higher than that we used on lawns. So we are glad to welcome Murphy's Tumblemoos which kills the moss in 12 hours and prevents its reappearance for up to 12 months. The moss

killer is chloroxuron, but Tumblemoos also contains ferric sulphate and urea which help to green up the grass and encourage its growth.

It is recommended that a general lawn fertilizer be applied two weeks after the treatment with Tumblemoos. The makers say that it is harmless to children and pets.

Recently I mentioned that one can only buy mustard, but not cress at the green-grocers' and I wondered why. Had I stopped to think as several readers have kindly pointed out the reason is obvious. Cress takes three days longer to grow than mustard. Mustard (which is not really mustard but rape) which you buy in the shop is ready for sale in about five to seven days. So cress costs the grower about half as much again in the cost of heating the glasshouse. When the wholesaler's and retailer's profit is added, obviously cress is going to cost so much more than mustard that it is certain we will never see it again in the shops when it has to be grown in heat.

I have checked the comparative cost of growing mustard on a piece of flannel in a saucer on the kitchen bench against a punnet bought from the green-grocer. The punnet cost 10p and contained about 600 seedlings. A packet of seed I bought cost 23p and contained around 1,400 seeds. So if you grow mustard yourself it costs just about as much as the fresh article in the shop. Obviously, because I cannot

buy fresh cress, I cannot say how much cheaper it would be to grow our own. All I can say is that, to me, a mustard sandwich is not the same as an egg, mustard and cress sandwich, so henceforth we will grow our own mustard and cress. This is over a crop at least, I have never known to give any trouble.

PERCY THROWER'S HOLIDAYS 1982 ESCORTED DEPARTURES

25 MAY 9-Day Rhine Cruise and Amsterdam Including 7 night Rhine cruise plus one night in Amsterdam to visit the world famous "Flower Show".

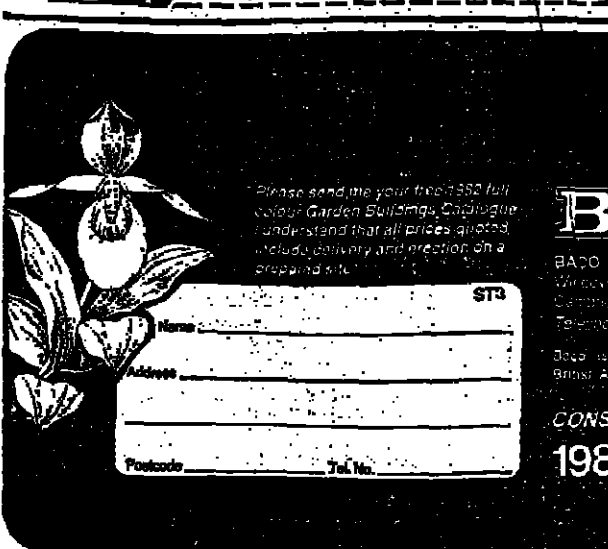
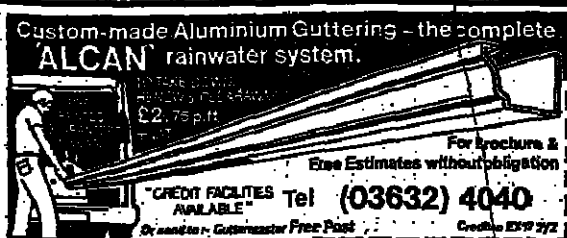
1 OCTOBER South Africa including Johannesburg, Pretoria, Kruger, Bloemfontein, Durban, Garden Route, Cape Town, etc. Gardens Lovett mini breaks Shrewsbury & Torquay

Between April and Sept. we have organised a series of short holidays in Shrewsbury and Torquay of 4, 5 and 4 night duration. Torquay holidays are based on the luxurious 5 star Imperial Hotel with prices from £55.

The Shrewsbury inclusive costs are from £67 and include visits to Percy's famous private home and garden.

Full details from

PERCY THROWER (FLORAL TOURS) LTD, 75 MARDOL, SHREWSBURY. TEL: (0746) 52539



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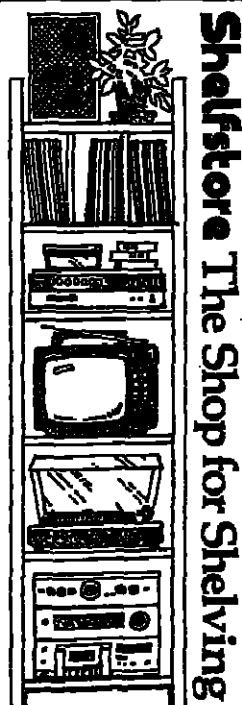
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CONSERVATORIES - GREENHOUSES - SUMMERHOUSES

1982 Garden Buildings Catalogue



Westwood



The Music Room

from £64.90

Stock Exchange Prices

Dull end to account

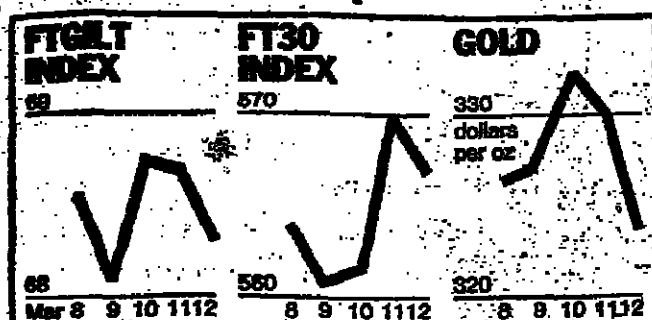
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, March 26. § Contango Day, March 29. Settlement Day, April 5.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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BUSINESS NEWS

Gold loses \$7



Gold slumped a further \$7 an ounce on the bullion markets, to end the day at \$323.75. This brings the fall on the week to \$19.50. Sterling also declined yesterday, slipping 1.15 cents, to \$1.795. Over the week, the pound has lost almost 4 cents against the dollar. The FT share index managed a small overall gain of 6.2 points during the last five trading days, but was 1 point down yesterday, at 566.9. Gilts fell back a ¼ to 4½ point.

Accountants pay £450,000

A record out-of-court £450,000 cash settlement has been paid to the Stock Exchange by Luton-based chartered accountants Keens, Sharkey Keens over their role as auditors to City stockbrokers Chapman and Rowe who were hammered in 1974. No liability has been admitted by the accounting firm, none of whose existing partners were engaged on the Chapman and Rowe audit. The Stock Exchange, which charged Keens with failing to carry out a proper audit, paid £325,000 compensation to investors, after the crash.

STC turns in £50m

Standard Telephones and Cables, the communications group 85 per cent owned by the United States ITT corporation, raised profits to £50.6m against £44.1m for the year to December. Sales were up from £537.7m to £567.5m, and earnings per share were up to 36.46p from 28.65p. A final dividend of 12.85p gross makes a total of 19.28p gross against 14.28p gross last year. The shares rose to 529p, then closed the day at 520p after opening at 490p.

Full report, page 18.

EEC industrial production falls

Industrial production in the European Community fell by 2.5 per cent in 1981 compared with 1980 and 1.65 per cent in December, according to provisional figures. The drop in industrial production contrasted with steady monthly increases in the three previous months. The decline was mainly due to drops in Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.

Films on cable

Greenwich Cablevision, the south London cable television company and one of the seven in the country awarded an experimental licence by the Home Office, last night launched a new channel devoted entirely to feature films.

Grain forecast

The Soviet Union will probably continue to import 35 to 45 million tonnes of grain a year in order to maintain its standard of living, Mr Robert Horvath, Assistant Secretary of State, said in Washington yesterday. The United States Agriculture Department yesterday estimated that the USSR will import a record 43 million tonnes in the 1981/82 crop year, up from 34.8 million in the previous crop year.

Jobless drop

The rate of increase in unemployment in France is slowing down. At the end of February, 2,093,800 people were out of work, a drop of 30,000 from the end of January.

MARKET SUMMARY

Dull end to Budget account

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 566.9 down 1.0
FT Gilts 68.30 down 0.41
FT All Shares 323.35 down 0.75
Bargains 25,705

Takeover news provided interest as the Budget account came to a generally dull end, with the FT index down 1.0 at 566.9, but a rise on the account of 19.5.

Huntley & Palmer put on 8p to 112p in foods as talks with Abisco continued. Rowntree the original bidder, put on 4p to 170p while Cadbury, which is working with interest, shed 4p to 97p.

In properties, Federated Land jumped 14p to 146p in after hours dealing on news of the bid from M.P. Kent, 1p off at 86p. Estates & General shed 7p to 63p following Kent's objections to Federated's bid.

There were a few sellers in gilts, where long ended 2½ off, medium was 2½ easier and short dates lost 2½. But enthusiasm continued for the index-linked issues where gains ranged up to 24.

Among leading equities GKN stood out with a 7p gain to 169p ahead of figures next week. Tube Investments were unchanged at 225p after the previous day's 245p as revised bid rumours came to nothing.

Profit taking in the brewing sector failed to dent prices with Bass unchanged at 225p and Grand Metropolitan 2p better at 211p. BP Bufer reached another new high, putting on 3p to 353p, as the market anticipates record profits in two weeks.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 7,102.61 down 154.73
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index
1,196.90 up 17.12

COMMODITIES

● A Saudi Arabian financial institution has made a loan offer to the International Cocoa organization buffer stock of \$70m on favourable terms. Mr Juergen Plambeck, ICCO buffer stock manager confirmed.

Mr Plambeck said the \$70m offer will be submitted to the ICCO council in London next week for consideration.

At the same meeting a loan offer from Brazilian banks totaling \$75m on conditions which have been considerably improved will also be submitted.

Cocoa futures in London steadied slightly on closing. Call following confirmation that the ICCO buffer stock has received an offer of a \$70m loan from a Saudi institution.

Turnover totalled a quiet 1,801 including 245 cross trades with nearby prices six pence lower to one bid and the rest about unchanged.

CURRENCIES

● The pound fell against a stronger dollar which was buoyed by rising Eurodollar interest rates ahead of a predicted big rise in the United States money supply figures to be published late Friday.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.7995 down 1.15 cents
Index 90.1 down 3 points
DM 4.28
Fr.Fr. 10.9750
Yen 431.50
Dollar
Index 113.7 up 4 points
DM 2.3780 up 10 points
Gold
\$ 323.75 down \$7

MONEY MARKETS

● Period rates firmed a shade. The Bank bought £483m of bills at unchanged rates to help relieve a shortage finally put at about £500m.
Domestic Rates:
Base rates 13
3-month interbank 13½-13¾
Euro-Currency Rates
3-month dollar 14½-15
3-month DM 9½-9¾
3-month Fr.Fr. 16½-16¾

New drop in rates ruled out as pound weakens

By Frances Williams

The financial markets do not now expect a fresh drop in interest rates for a while, even though the ½ point fall to 13 per cent in bank base rates this week was less than some had hoped for. Yesterday saw sterling fall below \$1.80 for the first time since last autumn. No Bank of England intervention was detected and analysts do not expect any further move by the Bank to reduce interest rates down further while sterling remains vulnerable.

It closed last night in London at \$1.7995, down 1.15 cents from Thursday, and nearly 4 cents lower on the week. Sterling's weakness was partly caused by a firmer dollar, which was boosted by higher Eurodollar deposit rates ahead of yesterday's United States money supply figures. These were expected to show a huge increase, perhaps of \$24.3 billion.

Concern is growing that American interest rates may soon be on their way up again as the Fed tries to keep the money supply within its tight target ranges in the face of high seasonal credit demand next month and some tentative signs that the recession there may be bottoming out.

If United States interest rates rise the British authorities will have less room to cut. The pound is further without taking a fall in sterling, and thus threatening the steady decline they hope to see in inflation.

The financial markets are thus waiting to see whether sterling will settle down after today's fall and what is likely to happen to United States interest rates, before they judge what scope there is for United Kingdom rates to come down.

The Bank of England yesterday issued this note of caution in the money markets today. It supplied £483m of bills to the money market at dealing rates unchanged from yesterday. At the weekly Treasury Bill tender the average rate at which the three-month bills were allotted fell only fractionally from £12.4972 per cent last week to £12.4650 per cent yesterday.

Gilts too suffered from some pessimism on interest rates falling back after the sharp gains immediately following the Budget. Short-dated stock closed up to ¼ down on the day, with long-dated gilts about ¼ down. However, both finished the day higher than before the Budget.

Index-linked stocks, initially given a sharp boost by the Budget news that they are to be available to the public, fell back by up to ½ on the day after rising by ½ on Wednesday. But the 2006 stock, for example, ended the week about £13 up from before the Budget.

Meanwhile, the Northern Ireland Secretary, James Prior, is still non-committal on the creditors' request that the government should renounce its preferential status and reduce its rights in its claims against De Lorean to the same status as those of the many small unsecured creditors who have supplied goods and services.

Mr Shewell said yesterday the receivers expect the result of talks between the American De Lorean company and the Budget Receivers to be a success.

A sale to Budget is unlikely directly to ease the Belfast company's cash problems since the Bank of America is claiming control of almost 2,000 cars in view of its £33m (£18.2m) loans to the American company.

But they are not optimistic. A statement from the receivers, Sir Kenneth Cork and Mr Paul Shewell, said the two petitioners had agreed to withdraw "following explanation of the possible adverse effects of winding up on the interests of the creditors generally. The joint receivers appreciate the action and hope that any other creditors who may be contemplating presenting winding-up petitions may be influenced by it."

De Lorean's 158 creditors in Northern Ireland were called by the news, according to their spokesman, Mr Michael Stevens, because the continued operation of the Belfast plant is their best hope of seeing repayment of any of the money owed.

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But they are not optimistic. A statement from the receivers, Sir Kenneth Cork and Mr Paul Shewell, said the two petitioners had agreed to withdraw "following explanation of the possible adverse effects of winding up on the interests of the creditors generally. The joint receivers appreciate the action and hope that any other creditors who may be contemplating presenting winding-up petitions may be influenced by it."

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Talks at the top: Mr Cumming, the societies' chairman, with his deputy, Mr Herbert Walden.

Banks join in cutting cost of a mortgage

The biggest-ever cut in the mortgage rate of 1.5 per cent points, bringing their cost down from record 15 per cent—was announced yesterday by Alan Cumming, chairman of the Building Societies Association. (Lorna Bourke writes)

The High Street banks had

been waiting to where the societies would fix their rates and the National Westminster and Barclays immediately announced their own reductions.

NatWest cut its rate by 1 per cent to 13.5 per cent while Barclays quoted 13.75 per cent although, because of

a discrepancy in the way the banks calculate interest, repayments on a Barclays loan are lower than NatWest's. Midland and Lloyds have yet to decide where their new rate will settle. The cheapest loans for sums up to £20,000 are offered by the Trustee Savings Bank, which is

quoting 12.5 per cent. The building societies' new investment rate is 8.75 per cent, down from 9.75 per cent. It should give them room to improve their position and lending has just begun to pick up to last summer's level of £1,000m a month. Spring boost, page 16

Japan starts to go into a decline

Japan yesterday announced the first quarterly decline in its economy in nearly seven years and another drop in exports highlighted the need to stimulate the sagging domestic economy.

The gloomy prospects for many firms in Japan and a fall in the yen also triggered the sharpest drop in share prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange this year.

The economic planning agency, which monitors Japan's economic performance, said that gross national product fell by 0.9 per cent in the final quarter of 1981. It was the first decline since the January to March quarter of 1975, when it fell by 0.7 per cent.

The announcement meant the Japanese economy would not reach the earlier predicted healthy growth rate of 4.1 per cent for this financial year, ending on March 31. The lower yen during the period did little to help exports, the backbone of the economy in recent years.

Officials said domestic demand had been rising, although more slowly than hoped, but it had been more than offset by a 4.3 per cent drop in exports in the October to December quarter of last year. Imports over the period rose by nearly three per cent.

Exports have declined in recent months because of the recession hitting many of Japan's major markets in the west. February figures on trade passing through customs also issued today showed that exports continued to fall.

But imports also fell, and this helped turn a January trade deficit of close to \$2,000m into a surplus last month of more than 100 million.

A Japanese newspaper survey portrayed a gloomy picture of Japan's export-oriented companies. Company profits are expected to fall four per cent.

The survey by the financial daily *Nihon Keizai Shinbun* covered more than 800 firms.

Japan is to announce a voluntary curbing of its car exports to the United States for the financial year starting next month. Officials of the International Trade and Industry Ministry said the ceiling would be fixed after considering views given yesterday by Mr James Murphy, deputy assistant United States trade representative.

Car sales in the United States in 1984 were only 8.53 million, with imports a record 27.2 per cent of the total—Reuters.

Nabisco may take the biscuit at Huntley

By Our Financial Staff

A second suitor for Huntley & Palmer, the biscuit group, subject of a £72.5m bid from Rowntree Mackintosh, has emerged after six weeks of speculation.

Huntley revealed yesterday it is holding talks with Nabisco Brands Inc, the United States biscuit company, whose brand names include Ritz, Crackers and Shredded Wheat.

Mr Hugh Brown, Huntley's finance director, said talks may or may not lead to an offer and was unable to comment further. But it appears that Huntley is fighting the takeover from Rowntree, which approached Nabisco only in the last day or so to see if they would turn long-expressed interest into a firm proposal.

Nabisco, which has ac-

quired a 2.6 per cent stake in Huntley, was also not commenting on the situation. However, Mr Michael Masterpool, a director, said Nabisco had been planning for some time a listing on the London Stock Exchange.

Rowntree, which is offering one share plus 150p cash for every three, Huntley shares jumped 8p to 112p on the news, said: "We wait to see the outcome of their discussions."

The spokesman said: "The statement issued by Huntley is only a holding statement and we are making no further comment on it."

Meanwhile Cadbury-Schweppes is adding nothing to the hunt made on Thursday by Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman, that the group may top the bid by Rowntree.

M. P. Kent bids to stop merger by developers

By Philip Robbison

Bristol-based property developer M. P. Kent yesterday launched a surprise takeover bid for Dorking property group Federated.

Kent already owns 14.72 per cent of Federated, which it bought at 130p a share in a dawn raid last September.

Federated's borrowings are about £14m. Debt of Estates and General is put at £10m. Kent says it is a liquid company and that a successful bid would almost wipe clean Federated's balance sheet.

Federated's all-share bid for Estates and General now values the company at 81p a share against the 74p price touched after the bid was announced last Monday.

Stone-Platt shares tumble

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Shares in Stone-Platt, the textile machinery and engineering group, tumbled 3½p to 12½p yesterday after reports that the group is once again having talks with its bankers and may need further finance on top of the support given last year by banks and City institutions.

Stone-Platt has been struggling to sort out its problems since it ran into default on its loans in 1980 and the Bank of England had to coordinate rescue talks.

Last year a £10m capital injection and £40m loan package was put together by the group. There have also been management changes

including the resignation last October of Mr Robin Teverton as chief executive.

Mr Leslie Pincott, chairman, was unavailable for comment yesterday as were the group's merchant bankers, Hill Samuel. The group's main bankers, Midland and Equity Capital for Industry and Finance for Industry, who both participated in last year's restructuring, would not comment.

Stone-Platt lost £3.5m pre-tax in the first half of last year, dashing earlier hopes of break-even for 1981. Full year results are expected soon.

Habitat's style goes East

By Margareta Pagano

Mr Terence Conran, after snapping up the Mothercare chain is going east. His latest venture is Habitat Japan.

This is a joint operation with Seibu and Seiyu, one of Japan's largest retail and transport corporations, whose interests include a private rail company, fashion houses and golf courses.

Details of the deal, which has taken two years to negotiate, were announced yesterday. "They work very fast," said Mr Conran. "I was not expecting a statement yet."

Habitat Design Holdings is linking with Seibu Department Stores. Its parent is not listed although it holds a 20 per cent stake in the quoted Seiyu Stores.

Habitat Japan will be capitalised at 1,000 yen (£22m) and Habitat has the option to take 10 per cent of the equity. Seibu, Seiyu Stores and Seibu Credit, all part of the privately-run holding company, will own the balance.

Seibu, which is on a par with British Home Stores, will develop and manufacture new goods for marketing through Habitat's stores. The joint firm plans to open 10 stores over the next five years - two in Tokyo this year. Sales are to total 20,000 million yen (£441m) by 1985.

Habitat was first courted two years ago by Seibu, run by Mr T. Tsutsumi, known in Japan as a bold and enterprising operator. A string of other Japanese also tried to do a deal.

"But Seibu attracted us because they seemed clear that European furniture and design could be introduced into the young Japanese market. I see a great future for Habitat there," Mr Conran said.

It also makes sense since many of Habitat's furniture imports come from the Far East and can now sell directly through the chain being developed. Habitat continues to push outlets elsewhere and has 16 outlets in France and Belgium and six in the United States.

Oil safety move

Texaco, the United States-based oil company, has applied for planning permission to build a £10m catalytic reformer at its refinery at Pembroke, South Wales, to enable it to comply with any change in the law on lead content in petrol.

Oil safety move

Texaco, the United States-based oil company, has applied for planning permission to build a £10m catalytic reformer at its refinery at Pembroke, South Wales, to enable it to comply with any change in the law on lead content in petrol.

Third Force emerges in the United Kingdom car market

Vauxhall on full throttle back to black

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

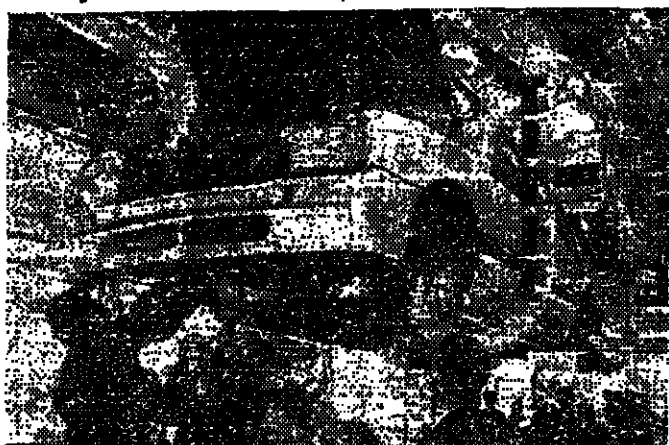
Vauxhall, the British subsidiary of General Motors, is on course this year to trade profitably for the first time since 1978.

The company yesterday disclosed a net loss last year of £57.4m, against a loss of £83.3m the previous year. All of last year's losses came in the first half, when the deficit was almost £60m. It is clear that Vauxhall has been making profits for the last six months.

The better financial performance happened despite a fall in the value of sales from £766.8m in 1980 to £761.7m.

Mr John Fleming, Vauxhall's new American chairman and managing director, said there was no doubt the company was "on the road back" and the results were expected to improve significantly.

The company, which assembles all but one of its cars



Vauxhall's Luton production line: making profits

mainly from imported components, said that improved prospects indicated an operating but not a net profit for this year.

Vauxhall is emerging as a

third force in the British car market after years of stagnation and recently has captured growing numbers of sales from competitors, particularly BL and Talbot.

THE PENTLAND INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

Results for the year to 31st December, 1981

	1981	1980
Total revenue	£1.96m	£1.96m
Earnings per share	6.28p	6.43p
Dividends per share	6.35p	6.30p
Net asset value per share	212p	194p
Total net assets	£38.6m	£35.5m

- Overseas content increased to 45.1%
- Larger percentage invested in lower yielding growth companies
- Fully invested in balanced spread of investments by industry and country
- 10 year performance: gross dividend up 179% net asset value up 67%

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Please send me a copy of the Annual Report.

Name

Address

FAMILY MONEY

Spring boost for homebuyers

Homebuyers will benefit substantially from the record 1.5 per cent cut in the mortgage rate announced yesterday by the building societies. Home loans come down from a high of 15 per cent to 13.5 per cent with immediate effect for new borrowers and from April 1 for those already buying their home.

The cost of a £20,000 25-year loan comes down from £258 a month to £235 before tax relief—a net cost of £167.50 for a new borrower.

The banks wasted no time in matching the building societies' mortgage rates. National Westminster immediately cut its rate by 1 per cent to 13.5 per cent. NatWest customers start paying the new rate on March 16. Barclays was next to move reducing its rate to 13.75 per cent but the actual monthly repayments are lower than those quoted by NatWest.

Cheapest place to borrow for loans under £20,000 is the TSB which brought its mortgage rate down to 12.5 per cent for loans under £20,000, 13.5 per cent above, TSB also throws in free life assurance.

Midland and Lloyds have not moved but an announcement is expected early next week as they will not be able to afford to stay out of line. The cut in home loan rates is not however expected to produce a sudden upsurge in house prices. "We would expect to see house prices rising a little towards the end of this year," said Alan Cumming, chairman of the Building Societies Association, but he pointed out that house prices are linked to

incomes and families' real incomes are expected to fall this year "so we won't see a sharp increase in house prices".

And the good news for homebuyers was matched by a generous offer for savers. The societies have cut the recommended investment rate by only 1 per cent from 9.75 per cent to 8.75 per cent, equivalent to 12.5 per cent before tax to a basic rate taxpayer.

With a 1.5 per cent reduction in the mortgage rate cut, a cut of more than 1 per cent was on the cards.

Most building society investors are receiving 1 per cent more than the recommended rates on "extra interest" accounts. At 9.75 per cent, net of basic rate tax, even basic rate taxpayers can expect a real return—taking into account inflation—on their investment. The Chancellor has said he expects inflation to run about 9 per cent during the coming 12 months so investors are 0.75 per cent in pocket.

The banks, by comparison look pretty miserable. Even the non-taxpayer who will receive the full 10.25 per cent

(10.0 at the Midland) can do much better by moving into a National Savings Bank Investment Account which pays 13.5 per cent from April 1, or into one of the money funds run by Simco or Tyndall paying slightly more.

"We think we should certainly be able to keep our rates at around their current level for the next week or two," commented Brian Pepperall of Tyndall, "and even when a reduction comes it should only be about 0.5 per cent".

Post Offices were jammed on Wednesday as investors took advantage of the last opportunity to buy 23rd issue National Savings certificates—withdrawn by the Chancellor in his Budget speech.

But most excitement has been over the new issue of index-linked gilt edged securities. These link an attractive bet for all taxpayers provided they are allocated at their face value of £100 for every £100 nominal of stock—cheaper. At anything above this level, granny bonds look a better bet.

The new index-linked gilts are particularly attractive to higher rate taxpayers, and like other gilts they are free of capital gains tax if held for more than a year.

The application forms which appeared in newspapers in Thursday look a little daunting, but it is worth ploughing through the small print—or handing it all over to your bank manager or stockbroker to deal with. On page 17 Sally White explains how to cope if you intend to "go it alone".



Go for gilts — they are as good as granny bonds

For investors the most innovative change in the Chancellor's Budget was the opening up of index-linked gilts to individuals. An issue has been announced with application forms already published in daily newspapers and investors should not be put off by the forms' complicated appearance.

If you "tender" for the new index-linked gilts at the nominal price of £100 for £100 of stock, they are as attractive as granny bonds. At anything cheaper—£99 or £98 per £100—they are a bargain and provided you can afford to have your money locked up for a possible six years, they are an attractive proposition for taxpayers.

Unlike granny bonds which can be sold back to the Government after 12 months for the full index-linked value, investors in the new index-linked gilt must sell their stock in the market if they want to cash in before the redemption date. The unknown quantity is how the gilt market will react in pricing these stocks so investors should be prepared to hold them the full six years.

For this reason, investors requiring income should be wary of purchasing. Both capital and income from these gilts is index-linked, but the initial return is low—only 2 per cent. Like conventional gilts they are free of capital gains tax if held for more than a year.

Tendering for the stock—application forms have to be at the Bank of England's new issue department by 10am on Friday—is not difficult once you know how. Stockbrokers Laurie Millbank have worked out for us a range of prices to "tender" depending on how great a premium over the rate of inflation you think is reasonable. The Chancellor believes inflation



The right to buy this indexed stock was restricted to pension funds. I have now decided to remove this restriction and the Bank of England is announcing a new issue of indexed stock on an unrestricted basis. — the Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe.

will run at 9 per cent over the coming year.

Remember you will probably not be able to buy at the price you have tendered. The Bank has the right to start at the highest tender and work its way down the list of tender prices until the allocation is full. Then the Bank will declare the "striking price" which will be lowest level at which the allocation

Return Required over Inflation	Tender Price to Offer
1.5%	£102.75
2.0%	£100
2.5%	£97.25
3.0%	£94.25

Sally White

MONEY TALK

Improved terms for investors

For building society investors the choice of extra-interest accounts is truly mind-boggling.

Most accounts pay 1 per cent over the building societies' recommended rate, but there are varying terms for withdrawal. Societies have recently been improving the terms of these accounts—generally reducing the notice period and easing the withdrawal penalties.

Provincial, Bradford & Bingley and Halifax building societies now only require one month's notice in writing for no penalty to be incurred. The norm up until now was three months. They are also reducing the penalty for immediate withdrawals.

The Provincial and the Bradford & Bingley deduct 28 days interest while others deduct a month's interest.

Interest reform falls due

The payment of interest on National Savings Bank Investment Accounts comes perilously near to being a fraud.

Interest is paid on whole pounds deposited for whole calendar months so it is possible, if you pay in money at the beginning of one month and withdraw it at the end of the following month, to obtain interest on money deposited for nearly two months.

Reforming this system is on National Savings' list of "things to do" but due to civil service inertia is currently languishing at all the bottom of the computer amendments. There is, apparently, no reason why it is not given top priority.

Golden bonus for executives

Companies wanting to slim down their workforce can expect a rush of senior executives volunteering for redundancy. After April 6 the new provisions for taxing golden handshakes comes into force and the existing concessions for payments in excess of £25,000 disappear. At present the first £25,000 is tax free and any excess is taxed at half your marginal rate of tax. The maximum tax payable on the excess over £25,000 is therefore 30 per cent.

But from April 6, 1983, the first £25,000 is tax free, the next £25,000 is taxed at half your marginal rate of tax and the next £25,000 is taxed at three-quarters of your marginal rate. Any excess over £75,000 will be taxed in full. Jack Gill, the ACC director who was due to receive a golden handshake of £560,000, must be glad he decided to take redundancy well before April 6.



The Bank of Scotland is now offering a very canny credit scheme—even to Sassenachs. It's called Scotplan.

No need to be a Scot, no need to have an account with us—Scotland's oldest Bank, established way back in 1695—to benefit from Scotplan. The coupon below is the way to get in touch with us. What it's all about.

- Scotplan means immediate credit when you want it—without asking.
- While your account is in credit it'll earn you interest every month.
- We'll give you a credit limit of 30 times your monthly payment, which you make by direct debit. For example, £30 a month lets you spend up to £900. £25, up to £750 and so forth. Your choice of monthly amount doesn't change until you want it to.
- With Scotplan you get a standard cheque book and cheque card that can be used anywhere. A monthly statement keeps you up to date.
- The interest on money borrowed through Scotplan is at 1.75% per month (A.P.R. 23.1%). This rate may vary from time to time in line with the general level of interest rates.
- Spend your Scotplan credit on anything you like, where and when you like.
- It's entirely your own affair.

Fill in the coupon now for full details and an application form. It's certainly worth your while.

Scotplan It's a very canny credit scheme

To: Bank of Scotland, Central Banking Services, Freeport, Edinburgh EH1 0AA.

Please send me details and an application form for 'Scotplan'.

Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ T/13/3

BANK OF SCOTLAND

Boost to limit on payment for child

The limit on small maintenance payments made to children is to be increased in the summer as part of the Chancellor's Budget changes.

Maintenance payments made under a Court Order (usually after a divorce) must be paid without deduction of tax if they come into the category of "small maintenance payments". As from the date of passing the 1982 Finance Act—some time in the summer—the limit on small maintenance payments made to a child will increase from £18 a week to £33 a week (or £143 a month).

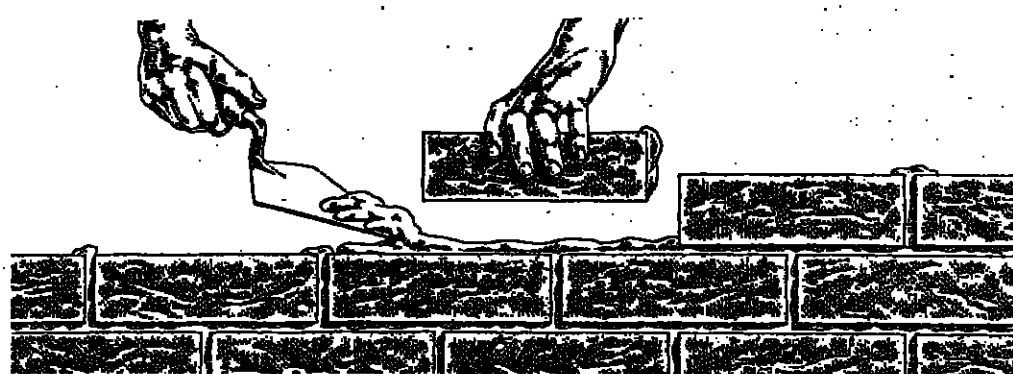
Such payments are not tax free and the payer (usually an ex-husband) is not allowed to deduct tax before paying. The child will pay tax on these payments in the normal way if income exceeds the personal allowance, £1,565 for 1982/83.

However, the Budget proposals constitute a change. Where money is paid to an ex-wife for the benefit of a child, instead of to the child direct, the limit on small maintenance payments will remain at £18 a week of £78 a month. The £33 a week of £143 a month limit on small maintenance payments made to a divorced or separated spouse remains unchanged.

Sorting out finances after a divorce is a minefield.

Where there are young children it pays to have some of the maintenance paid direct to the child to be treated as the child's income. The first £1,565 (1982-83) will be tax free in the hands of the child who is eligible for personal tax allowances in the normal way. A divorced wife is entitled to a personal tax allowance, plus the "additional personal allowance" for single parents bringing the limit of her tax free income up to that of a married man (£2,445 1982-83). But above this figure income which includes maintenance payments, will be taxed in the usual way.

Lorna Bourke



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The aim—capital growth. The Trust aims for above-average capital growth by investing in a diverse range of smaller UK companies, which, the Managers believe, have exceptional recovery prospects. The Trust concentrates on companies with a market capitalisation of £20 million or less, including companies trading on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Professional management is essential. Investing in the potential successes among smaller companies requires specialist in-depth knowledge combined with skilful timing. The team of professionals at Gartmore have proved over the years that they have exceptional expertise in this. David Collins, writing in the Sunday Telegraph, said of the Trust on 13/08/81 "The aim is above-average capital growth, something Gartmore funds always seem to achieve".

As a measure of the Trust's success, the offer price of units has risen by 27.6% since the launch last September, and the Trust is now valued at over

£7 million. Although this excellent short-term performance is no guarantee of future results, we believe that the investment policy for the Trust will ensure a continuing high level of growth. Remember, the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

How to invest. You can invest from £200 upwards: just complete and post the coupon below. The Trust's estimated current gross yield is 3.39% p.a. For your guidance the offer price of units on 11th March, 1982 was 31.3p.

Further Information. You can obtain information on other Gartmore unit trusts by circling the appropriate box on the coupon, details are free and available on Form 1200/23. Applications will be accepted by mail and will be forwarded to our sales team. You can sell your units back to us at no less than the minimum bid price on any dealing day. Prices and yields are quoted in leading national newspapers. You will receive a cheque within seven working days of the Managers receiving your request.

The Trust is controlled and administered by a Trust Deed dated 1st August, 1981. Income is distributed each year on 30th November. The first distributions will be on 30th November, 1982. Units are paid off by cheque on the 1st of each month. Income tax can be reclaimed from the Inland Revenue if you are entitled to do so. A management charge of 1% is included in the price of the units. One of the Managers will pay commission on authorised agents' fees on request. There is an annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the funds which is deducted from income, and which is already allowed for in the estimated yield. The Trust Deed permits a maximum annual charge of 1% (plus VAT). The Trust is managed by Gartmore Fund Managers Limited, 2nd Floor, 100, The Quadrant, London EC4A 3DF. Tel: 01-623 6114. (Read the full prospectus before investing. This offer is available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.)

Over £7000,000 invested since launch. Apply now.

Application for Units in Gartmore UK Smaller Companies Recovery Trust

To: Gartmore Fund Managers Ltd., 2nd Floor, 100, The Quadrant, London EC4A 3DF. Telephone: 01-623 6114. (Read the full prospectus before investing.)

I/We should like to invest £ _____ (minimum £200) in Gartmore UK Smaller Companies Recovery Trust at the offer price of units on the date of receipt.

I/We enclose a remittance, payable to Gartmore Fund Managers Ltd.

Tick box: ☐ For automatic re-investment of net income. ☐ For details of the complete Gartmore unit trust range. ☐ For details of Gartmore insurance linked plans.

Surname (Mr, Mrs, Miss) _____

First Name(s) in full _____

Address _____

Signature(s) _____ T/13/3/SC

(When application is made by post, please attach name and address as above.)

GARTMORE £2,000,000 invested since launch. Apply now.

THE BUDGET

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE

Taxpayers' gain will prove a tax planners' nightmare



"A pretentious little wine — leaves an ill-bred metallic aftertaste of customs and excise on the palate."

How to keep up your spirits despite extra duty

The Chancellor's decision to raise excise duties on wines and spirits in Tuesday's Budget does not necessarily spell gloom for the investor. His "sensible" presumption that (excise duties) should be adjusted in line with the movement in prices from one year to the next resulted in excise duty rises of 10.4 per cent on champagne and 10.7 per cent on light wine, like claret and burgundy. Other sparkling wines, £1.57 on port, and approximately £3.13 on spirits like cognac and armagnac. In addition, the Treasury gains by 15 per cent VAT on these increases.

Many wine and spirit merchants were expecting a small rise and had cleared the stocks duty-paid. Balls Bros (313 Cambridge Heath Road, London, E2 9LQ) will, for instance, hold prices for four weeks from Budget day; this includes their two wine investment schemes, Justicial & Brooks (61 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1JZ) aims to hold spirit prices until April 1 and wine prices until possibly later.

Leytons Wine Merchants (20 Midland Road, London, NW1 2AD) have extended the closing date of their wine investment plan to March 15, subject to stocks remaining available. It is for a mixed cellar, purchased by regular monthly payments over a six month period. It includes Sandeman 1977 port and the outstanding 1978 claret vintage in Ch. Grand Puy Ducasse.

Like many country wine merchants, Lay and Wheeler (6 Culver, Street West, Colchester, CO1 1JA) is aiming to hold its prices until a new list is issued on April 1.

No excise duty or VAT is liable for stocks of wines and spirits bought and stored under bond. Most reputable merchants will quote for the better wines of investment potential without duty and can advise whether they can undertake storage or recommend a suitable public bond (a list of which is obtainable from HM Customs and Excise). With a wine like vintage port, the combined excise duty and VAT can amount to over £20 a case.

Wines and spirits are more attractive to overseas bidders at auction as well as to

investors will welcome the Government's move in index-linking capital gains tax — a move that, for most people will mean the end of CGT. But it presents tax planners with more permutations than Rubik's Cube and some stockbrokers are wondering if their computers will stand the strain.

The Budget has made three main changes to capital gains tax. First the annual exemption from CGT is raised from £3,000 to £5,000. For many modest investors, this alone will effectively mean the end of CGT. Secondly, this threshold is in future to be raised in line with inflation each year. Thirdly, and far more complicated, profits in the disposal of investments will be adjusted to take account of inflation.

Capital Gains Tax will be payable on that part of any gain which exceeds the rise in the Retail Prices Index, starting from March 1982. For example, if you buy an asset for £100 and the RPI rises by 10 per cent, you will pay capital gains tax only on any profits over £110. But you must have held the assets for a year before any index-linking applies.

For owners of second homes and other property the new provisions will provide welcome relief... Capital gains tax on property should be virtually eliminated.

But for owners of shares and other securities the implications of the provisions are difficult to understand. Derek Scrivener who heads the financial services department of stockbrokers Capel Cure Myscows says "until we see the Finance Bill we won't know in detail how it is supposed to work, but it looks as though the administrative side of private client portfolios is going to be much more time consuming."

It also, as Mr Scrivener explains, turns the time-

losses to mitigate the tax liability on gains, and holding on to his shares to retain the higher base line that goes with index-linking. Because bed and breakfasting counts as a proper disposal, the investor is caught by the one year rule — he will not benefit from any index-linking in the twelve months after bed and breakfasting. It is rather like trying to pat your head and rub your tummy.

Say you buy shares for £1,000 which four years

rise in value to £1,500. The persons who has not bed and breakfasted earlier will pay CGT on only £48 — the excess over the new base line of £1,452. The investor who bed and breakfasted at £750 would have saved a maximum of £75 in CGT — 30 per cent of the £250 loss established but will now have a CGT liability on the sale at £1,500, of £225. This could, of course fall within the annual exemption.

It looks as though bed and breakfasting losses may become a thing of the past as holding on to your losses and utilizing the higher index-linked cost base could well be worth more in the long run.

You may want to be bed and breakfasted to profit to utilize your exemption, but you will have to take into account the subsequent loss of one year's index-linking.

It may however, pay you to establish a higher base line for your shares even at the expense of sacrificing one year's index-linking. Suppose you buy £1,000 shares which cost £1,500 over two years. If the RPI moves up by 10 per cent in that second year the base cost for tax purposes is £1,100. Bed and breakfasting will however have established a new base cost of £1,500 — higher than you would obtain by simply hanging on to your shares.

In cases of a marginal gain, however, it could be that the rate of inflation outstrips the gain. The wise investor will take professional advice.

Suppose these share then Margaret Drummond

honoured practice of "bed and breakfasting" into something of a gamble.

Bed and breakfasting is the term used to describe the operation by which investors can establish a capital gain or loss for tax purposes without having to dispose of their investments for ever. It is usually done around now — before the end of the tax year on April 5.

Typically, where an investor is showing both losses and gains, he can offset the losses against the profits, keeping his overall profit to within the individual exemption limit — currently £3,000.

With the dawn of index-linking the investor has to choose between establishing

later have fallen in value to £750. By that time, assuming 10 per cent inflation each year, the new index-linked base line on the shares will be £1,320. If you bed and breakfast you establish a £250 loss which can be set against other gains, but you have a new base line of only £750 and you will have to wait another year before the index-linking starts again.

If you hang on to the shares, you retain the higher base line for calculating capital gains and are eligible for any index-linked increases in the base line during the following 12 months. Assuming a further 10 per cent inflation this would mean a base line of £1,452.

Suppose these share then Margaret Drummond

Improvement grants are upgraded

Home improvement grants worth as much as £10,000 are for the asking following this week's Budget and the Chancellor's attempt to breathe a little life into Britain's building industry.

As with all such grants there are plenty of catches but the money is definitely available for people who are either prepared or ready to put up with refurbishing run down houses.

In his speech last Tuesday the Chancellor defined three types of improvements for which the Government was prepared to earmark £100m. These cover roof insulation, provision of basic amenities and structural work.

There have been complaints in the past that either local authorities were unprepared to make improvement cash available or that with stringent public spending cut backs they did not have the resources.

The first grant available is what the Chancellor called an "intermediate grant" which is mandatory — that is, the council must provide the cash if you apply for assistance in installing basic amenities.

Under the scheme the grant is worth 90 per cent of the cost of providing proper bathroom inside WC and hot and cold running water. Unlike other grants there is no limiting age factor on the property but within the Greater London area the house or flat must have a rateable value of less

than £400 a year; £225 a year in the rest of the country.

At the same time there are expense limits. Do not expect to receive a friendly welcome from your local council office when you start talking about double glazing, gold taps and bidets. Within the London area the expense limits are £6,000; £4,400 elsewhere.

The other major grant scheme announced this week covers the cost of repairs. This is aimed at improving run down properties where substantial structural alterations are needed, such as foundations, roof work, and major internal rebuilding.

Unlike the intermediate grant this cash help is a discretionary, not mandatory hand out.

To be eligible for a repair grant the property must have been built before 1919 with the same rateable value limits as the intermediate grant. The expense limits are lower: £5,500 in Greater London; £4,000 elsewhere.

It is probably in this area that most difficulty will be encountered obtaining money from councils. Under the provisions outlined by Sir Geoffrey local authorities must estimate the demand for repair grants, as with other grants, and apply to the Department of the Environment for their allocation.

To secure either grant you, and your council, must have applied for the cash before December 31, 1982, otherwise further claims will be ineligible.

gible. So if you are thinking of taking on a run down property you will have to act soon.

The scheme is expected to run from about mid-April when an order is placed before Parliament. This gives you about eight months to apply for the appropriate grant.

Another piece of encouragement from the Chancellor is that he has boosted the cash help available for roof insulation. It is raised from a maximum of £65 to £89 although there is some indi-

cation that a greater emphasis will be placed on quality of insulation.

The elderly, low income earners and disabled will see their grants rise from £90 to £95, or 90% of the cost, whichever is the lower.

It is to your advantage to approach your local council for fuller details on these schemes when they are introduced next month. Some councils are better than others at making the public aware of the grants available.

Baron Phillips

UP TO 55% HIGHER RETURN THAN DIRECT INVESTMENT INTO A BUILDING SOCIETY

This unique plan — highly praised by the National Press — provides the security of investing in Building Societies (all members of the Building Societies Association) plus the certainty of a far higher return.

- Outstanding non-speculative Capital Growth.
- Monthly, Annual or Lump Sum Investment.
- Provides a predictable sum at a given date with absolute security.
- Also available to children 12 or over.
- Should continue to beat inflation.

The Building Society Investment Plan is specifically designed to protect your savings against inflation. For all taxpayers — standard or higher rates — the advantages are substantial. High yield and built-in flexibility make the Plan ideal for providing a predictable sum at a given date.

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Accountants & Investment Consultants, Sunningdale House,
27 Grand Parade, Brighton BN2 2QJ. Tel. (0273) 604502/68168.
Please send me full details of this Investment Plan by return.

Name _____
Address _____
Birth date (male) _____ Birth date (female) _____
I have available to invest monthly/annually £ _____
Lump sum of £ _____ Highest Tax Rate _____

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — Barclays, Lloyds, and Natwest 10 per cent. Midland 10 per cent. Several days notice required for withdrawals. For sums of £10,000 or more rate fixed for the term. Fixed-term deposits — 1 month 12% per cent; 3 and 6 months, 12 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

Money funds
Since 7-day fund, 13.92 per cent; UDT Average Rate Deposit Fund, 14% per cent; Tyndall 7-day fund, 13.5 per cent; Simco dollar fund, 14.12 per cent; interest paid without deduction of tax. Further details from Simco (01-236 0233), Tyndall (0272-732241), UDT (scheme now closed to new investment).

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — Interest 5 per cent; first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account — 14 per cent, interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000. (Reducing to 13% per cent on April 1).

National Savings Index-linked certificates
Maximum investment: £5,000, return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail prices index, 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in March 1977, £184.17 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity. Portfolio years, General Life — 0.5 per cent net — minimum investment £500. Three years, general portfolio 11.2 per cent net — minimum investment £500. Four years, American Life, 12.00-13.5 per cent (dependent on age) — minimum investment £1,000. Five years, Lamont Life 12 per cent net — min. investment £1,000.

Building societies
Ordinary share accounts — 8.75 per cent, term shares — 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 2 per cent.

BSA recommended ordinary share rates depending on the term.
Regular savings schemes — 1.25 per cent over BSA's recommended ordinary share rate. Rates above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax, not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Local authority yearling bonds
12-month fixed rate investments, interest 13% pc basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers). Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-828 7855, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Finance for industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13% pc; 5-7 years, 13% pc; 8-10 years, 13% pc. Further information from FFI 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-828 7822).

Finance house deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. For sums of between £5,000 and £50,000: 6 months, 12% pc; 1 year, 12% pc; 2 years, 13 pc.

Foreign currency deposits
Interest paid without deduction of tax.

	notice	1 day	7 days
US dollar (call)	12% pc	12% pc	12% pc
Yn (2 days)	3% pc	3% pc	3% pc
D. Mark	6% pc	6% pc	6% pc
French Franc	10% pc	10% pc	10% pc
Swiss Franc	1 pc	1% pc	1% pc

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

PERPETUAL GROUP INCOME FUND

Top Income Fund in 1981

Another top performer from Perpetual

For those investors who want a higher income than average from equities together with good prospects of capital growth, Perpetual offer their Income Fund. This was the top-performing income fund for capital growth in 1981 when its units rose 23.4% compared to a rise of 11.8% in the FT Ordinary Index. The Fund was also the top-performing unit trust of all trusts for capital growth for the twelve months to March 1st 1982. The estimated gross annual yield was 7.18% at the offer price of 70.7p on 10th March 1982. Perpetual are managers of the Perpetual Group Growth Fund which has out-performed all other unit trusts for capital growth over the period since it was launched on 11th September 1974. Why not send for details?

Source: Money Management, income reinvested.

To: Perpetual Group, 48 Hart Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 2AZ. Telephone: (0491) 216888.

Please send me details on: ☐ Income Fund ☐ Growth Fund ☐ Share Exchange ☐ Savings Plan

Name (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

PERPETUAL

THE M&G YEAR BOOK 1982

M&G's Year Book, designed as an aide-memoire for professional advisers, is also available for private investors interested in M&G's wide range of investments and financial services.

To: M&G Group, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Telephone: 01-626 4584.

Please send me a free copy of the M&G Year Book 1982.

☐ Mr/Ms/Miss ☐ INITIALS ☐ SURNAME
☐ ADDRESS _____
☐ POSTCODE _____
☐ SY 48012

M&G

THE M&G GROUP

More aid for the Self-Employed

Unlocking Retirement fund cash

A PENSION YOU CAN SAVE AND SPEND

MAKE YOUR PENSION PAY TODAY

AT LAST! THE COMPLETE SELF-EMPLOYED PENSION PLAN-BEFORE AND AFTER RETIREMENT.

The Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan is built on some of the most generous tax concessions ever offered to one section of the community.

- * Up to 17% of net relevant earnings can be invested in a pension plan to qualify for tax relief of up to 60p in the £.
- * This relief can be claimed in respect of unused relief for the previous 6 years.
- * All investment income and capital gains accumulate in tax exempt funds. Pensions do not attract investment income surcharge. Death benefits can normally be arranged without liability to Capital Transfer Tax.

Such advantages are, of course, common to all self-employed pension plans, but with the Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan they are only the beginning of a uniquely attractive investment proposition.

THE LOANBACK FACILITY

You can now invest in a pension plan without locking up your money until you retire. Vanbrugh's LOANBACK FACILITY may allow you to borrow back a sum equal to the value of your accumulated funds at any time between now and retirement. The net interest on the loan accrues for the benefit of your own pension plan.

Plus a lump sum available immediately.

Investors in the Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan may now borrow up to fifteen times their initial annual investment (subject to security and credit worthiness) from Forward Trust Limited, a subsidiary of Midland Bank, allowing investors to boost their liquidity immediately. Written quotations are available from Vanbrugh Pensions Limited.

The investment management of the Prudential.

The Vanbrugh Pension Funds are managed directly by Prudential Portfolio Managers Limited, employing the Investment Fund Managers of The Prudential Assurance Company Limited, the UK's

largest corporate investment institution. These funds constitute a complete range of investment opportunities — and you can vary your choice from year to year between the Property Fund, Equity Fund, Fixed Interest Fund, Guaranteed Fund, Index Linked Gilt Fund, and the Managed Fund.

NEW A flexible approach to early retirement.

More and more professional people now choose to retire before 65. To make this possible, the Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan lives up to its name; you could start drawing your pension as early as 60, in phases if required.

NEW Built-in insurance against accident or illness.

For annual plans a small additional annual sum insures you against future inability, through accident or illness, to continue in the same occupation. Should this happen, your pension contribution will be waived.

NEW Loyalty bonus after 10 years.

When at least 10 yearly premiums or 120 monthly premiums have been paid into the Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan, all benefits will be increased by 2½% on retirement.

Please post this coupon to take full advantage of tax relief available before April 5th. Your pension should now be your top investment priority.

To: Vanbrugh Pensions Limited.
41/43 Maddox St., London W1R 9LA. Tel: 01-499 4923.
Please send me full details of the Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TEL. _____

Vanbrugh
A member of the Prudential Group
A member of the Life Offices Association

Proposed revised structure

The Trust	Sector	Company
The Trust	Advanced technology	Atlas Electric and General Trust, PLC
The Trust	Australia	C.L.R.P. Investment Trust PLC
The Trust	Unrestricted: weighted to higher than average income	The City of London Trust PLC
The Trust	North America	Continental Union Trust PLC
Cedar Investment Trust, PLC	Proposed unification/liquidation	

The Industrial and General Trust, PLC	Unrestricted: weighted to capital and income growth	The Industrial and General Trust PLC
The Internatsl Investment Trust, PLC	Pacific Basin	The Internatsl Investment Trust PLC
Sphere Investment Trust, PLC	Natural Resources	The Sphere Investment Trust PLC
The Trust Union, PLC	Property	The Trust Union, PLC
The Trustees Corporation, PLC	Unrestricted: weighted to smaller companies	The Trustees Corporation PLC

TOUCHE, REMNANT & Co.

A document giving full details of the reorganisation and the reasons behind it has been posted to the shareholders in the investment trusts concerned. If you would like to receive a copy, please write asking for "Touche Remnant strategy and structure for the 80's" to: Patrick Webb, Company Secretary, Touche, Remnant & Co., Mermaid House, 2 Fiddle Dock, London, EC4V 3AT.

[illegible]

Edited by Peter Davalle

in the 1980s

Radio 1

in As Radio 2 7.00 Wake Up to
weekend with Adrian John. 8.00
Jackson's Saturday Show.
Paul Burnett. 1.00 pm Adrian
2.00 A King in New York, with
on Kings. 3.00 Paul
on Kings. 4.00 Walkers' Weekly
on Walkers. 5.00 Rock On. 7.30
Concert, featuring UFO. 7.30
VHF: Radio 1 and 2. 8.00 am
Radio 2. 1.00 pm with Radio 1.
1.00 am with Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

the following lines (1912-1920):

1. 7.00 World News, 7.00
2. 7.00 World News, 7.00
3. 7.00 World News, 7.00
4. 7.00 World News, 7.00
5. 7.00 World News, 7.00
6. 7.00 World News, 7.00
7. 7.00 World News, 7.00
8. 7.00 World News, 7.00
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97. 7.00 World News, 7.00
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99. 7.00 World News, 7.00
100. 7.00 World News, 7.00

2.30 Sports Review, 3.10 World
3.09 News About Britain, 3.15 From
a Correspondent, 3.30 Rhythms 'n'
4.00 Newswatch, 5.45 Letter from

ULSTER

London except: Starts 10.00 am
Stingray, 5.00 pm-5.05 Sports
6.13 News, 5.15-5.45 Mr
7.45-8.45 Magnum, 10.50
Caro Show, With Helen Reddy
Mid Essex, 11.40 News at
8, Closedown.

BORDER

London except: Starts 9.35am-

SCOTTISH

don except: Starts 9.15 am
the Vicking. 9.40-10.30
erbride. 5.15-5.45 Mr Merlin.
Late Call. 11.55 That's
ood. 12.20 am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

don except: Starts 9.00 am-
Flier. Terzan goes to Indle (Jack
sly). Terzan meets the cat
dual prince who needs help in
thousands of elephants from
p. 5.15-5.45 Mr Merlin. 7.45-
Ingram. 11.50 That's
ood. 12.20 am.

**THE SYMBOLS MEAN: * STEREO
BLACK AND WHITE. * REPEAT.**

Radio 1

The Tony Blackburn's Sunday
10.00 Noel Edmonds. 1.00 pm
Savile's "Old Record" Club.
Studio B16 with David Jensen.
Top 40 with Tommy Vance; 7.00
Record Producers. Richard
8.00 Sounds of Jazz; 10.00
The Vibe Radio; 11.00 to 2.5.00 am
Studio 2. 5.00 pm with Radio 1.
5.00 with Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

World Service can be received in
Europe on medium wave (648 kHz)
at the following times (GMT): 6.00
am, 7.00 am, 7.30 am, 8.00 am.
Within 7.15 from Our Own Correspondents.

1906. 9.00 Review of the British
 1915. 5.00 People and Politics. 5.45 Sports
 1915. 10.00 The World. 10.00
 1915. 10.00 Service. 11.00 World news. 11.00
 About Britain. 11.15 Letter from
 1915. 10.00 Letter from
 Half-Dons. 1.00 World News. 1.00
 Letter. 1.15 Goods Books. 1.30 Short
 1915. 1.45 Letter from
 of the Daytime War. 1.30
 1915. 1.30 News. 1.15 Concert Hall. 4.00
 1915. 4.00 Letter from
 Correspondent. 4.35 Financial
 4.45 Letter from Britain. 5.00
 1915. 5.00 Letter from
 6.00 Community. 6.15 Letter from
 the Pagan's to Young. 10.00 World
 10.00 Letter from
 10.45 Sport. 11.00 World
 1.00 Community. 1.15 Letter from
 1915. 1.00 Letter from
 12.00 News. 12.00 News
 Radio News. 12.30 Religious
 1.00 Letter from Club
 1915. 1.00 News. 2.00 Review of the
 Press. 2.15 Twentieth Century Polit.
 2.15 Letter from 3.00 Letter from
 about Britain. 3.15 The
 art Modern. 3.20 Anything Goes. 4.00
 4.00 Letter from

GRAMPIAN

don except: Starts 9.15am
Lalthien, 9.30-10.00 Be Your
can, 10.00 Morning Worship.
God's Army, 10.30-11.00
Makers: Napoleon, 11.30-
Gardening Time, 1.00pm
Fly Challenge, 1.30 Farming
2.00-3.30 Film, Broken Arrow
Stewart, Dabra Page Western
re-cast, 3.30-4.00 Fish and
and hears, 4.00 Behind the
30 Scotland, 5.30-6.30 Chips.
15 Hart to Hart, 12.15am
Hans, 12.20 Close Down.

BORDER

don except: Starts 9.20am Be
win Boss, 9.50 God's Story,
12.00 Gardening Time, 1.00pm
and Quiver, 2.00-2.30 2000's
3.30 Here's a Boomer, 4.00
the Vell, 4.30 Border Diary,
5.30 Film: When the Legends Die
of Wildfowl American Indian is
to leave the Rockies to attend a
town school, 7.15-8.15 Hart to
2.15am Close-down.

West except: 2:00 pm-2:30 p.m. Show with guest Jean-Pierre L , the founder of 3.30 The Lyssed 2:00-4:30 Mark and Minky.

CENTRAL

London except: Starts 8:50am
g 8:20 9:20 By Your Own Boss.
0:00 God's Story, 11:30-12:00
ning Time, 1:00-1:30 The
g, 1:30 Here and Now, 2:00-
enson, 3:30 Film: 10-Min By
ght (Dirk Bogarde, Marius
). In Crete during the German
ation, British agents work with
to capture a German
i. 5:30 Cartoon, 5:30-6:00
ures of Black Beauty, 7:15-8:15
Hart. 12:15pm Closesdown.

